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The MELTING of MOLLY

BY MARIA THOMPSON DAVIESS

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LEAF FOURTH—Continued.

was glad we had both got over excitement and were sitting de- ly at several inches' distance the judge drew the grays up to ate and we both went down to idewalk to ask him and the love- ng lady to come in. They n't; but we stood and talked to long enough for Mrs. Johnson t a good look at us from across treet and I was afraid I would Aunt Adeline in a faint when I into the house.

ss Chester was delightfully gar- about the dinner—I almost call- the debut dinner—and the ex- ion on the judge's face when he ted! I was glad she was sitting ise to him and couldn't see. women like to make other wo- unhappy, but I think it is best ou to keep them blissfully un- ious until you get what you Anyway, I like that girl all and I can't see that her neck is bsolutely impossibly flowery. ver, I think she might have a little more considerate about ssing Alfred's London triumph the Italian mission. As unishment I let Tom put arm around my waist as stood watching them drive nd then was sorry for the left horse that shied and came in for k of the judge's irritated whip. n I refused to let Tom come in- the gate and he went down the whistling, only when he got to urple lilac he turned and kissed and to me. That, Mrs. Johnson couldn't stand and she came s the street immediately and me back to the gate.

u are tempting Providence, Carter," she exclaimed decid- "Don't you know Tom Pollard thing but a fly-up-the-creek? As band he'd chew the rope and run like a puppy the first time your was turned. Besides being your n, he's younger than you. What u mean?"

's just a week younger, Mrs. on, and I wouldn't tie him for 's, even if I married him," I said y. Somehow I like Mrs. Johnson h to be meek with her and it al- brings her to a higher point of ment.

nonsense; marrying is roping th ball and chain, to my mind. a week between a man and a n in their cradles gets to be years between them and their s. I'm going to make you the t of a silent prayer at the next nary meeting, and I must go now to see that Sally cooks up of Mr. Johnson's crotchets for ." And she began to hurry

don't believe you'll be able to it a 'silent' session about me. Johnson," I called after her, and aughed back from her own front Marriage is the only worm in d of Mrs. Johnson's life, and her has a snap to it even if it is not sugary sweet.

en I told Judy about the dinner- and asked her to get the yellow r to come help her and her w wait on the table she grinned a wide grin that I was afraid of swallowed. She understood that Adeline wouldn't be interested until I had time to tell her all it. Anyway, she will be going d Springfield on a pilgrimage to r. Henderson's sister next week. oesn't know it yet; but I do. er that I spent all the rest of the g in planning my dinner-party had a most royal good time. I s have had lots of company, but y the spend-the-day kind with es, or more relatives to supper. what most entertaining in oro is like, but, as I say, once while the old slow pacer wakes

never forget my first real din- rty, as the flower girl for Car- Evans' wedding, when she mar- the Chicago millionaire, from Hillsboro has never yet re- d. I was sixteen, felt dread- naked without a tucker in my and saw Alfred for the first in evening clothes—his first. I ardly stand thinking about how ked even now. I haven't been to many dinner-parties in my life, om this time on I mean to in- in them often. Candle-light, women's shoulders, black coat s, cut glass and flowers are good ients for a joy-drink, and why

when I got to planning about orgeous food I wanted to give all, I got into what I feel came being a serious trouble. It was g down the recipe for the nes- pudding they make in my that undid me. Suddenly hun- se up from nowhere and gripped the throat, gnawed me all over bone, then shook me until I was and unresisting. I must have zed myself down to the pantry, hen I became conscious I found in company with a loaf of a plate of butter and a huge jam.

t down by the long table by the w and slowly prepared to enjoy . I cut off four slices and but- them to an equal thickness and more slowly put a long silver into the jam. I even paused to e in Judy's mirror over the table ect of the cascade of lace that ross my arm and lost itself in ue shimmer of old Rene's mas- e of a negligee, then deep down ed the spoon in the purple sweet- I had just lifted it high in the en out of the lilac-scented dark garden came a laugh.

y, Molly, Molly, Molly!" drawled iserable man-doctor as he came aned on the sill right close to my The spoon crashed on the table rned and crashed into words. are cruel, cruel, John Moore. hate you worse than I ever did . If that is possible, I'm hungry, to death, and now you've it all! Go away before I wet ice crisp bread and jam with into a mush I'll have to eat with n. You don't know what it is to omething sweet so bad you are to steal it—from yourself!" I fairly blazed my eyes down into his and moved as far away from him as the table would let me.

"Don't I, Molly?" he asked softly, after looking straight in my eyes for a long minute that made me drop my head until the blue bow I had tied on the end of my long plait almost got into the scattered jam. Even at such a moment as that I felt how glad old Rene would have been to have given such a nice man as the doctor a treat like that blue silk chef-d'oeuvre of hers. I was glad myself.

"Don't I, Peaches?" he asked again in a still softer voice. Again I had that sensation of being against something warm and great and good like your own mother's breast and I don't know how I controlled it enough not to—to—

"Well, have some jam then," I managed to say with a little laugh as I turned away and picked up the silver spoon.

"Thank you, I will, all of it and the bread and butter, too," he answered, in that detestable friendly tone of voice as he drew himself up and sat in the window. "Hustle, Peaches, if you are going to feed me, for I'm ravenous. It took Sam Benson's wife the longest time to have the shortest baby I ever experienced and I haven't had any supper. You have; so I don't mind taking it all away from you."

"Supper," I sniffed as I spread the jam on those lovely, lovely slices of bread and thick butter that I had fixed for my own self. "That apple-toast combination tires me so now that I forget it if I can." As I handed him the first slice of drippy lusciousness I turned my head away. He thought it was from the expression of that jam, but it was from his eyes.

"Slice up the whole loaf, Peaches, and lets get on a jam jag! Come with me just this once and forget—forget—" He didn't finish his sentence and I'm glad. We neither of us said anything more as I fed him that whole loaf. I found that the bite I took off each piece I had ready for him when he finished with the one he had in hand satisfied me as nothing I had ever eaten in all my life before had done, while at the same time my nibbles soothed his conscience about robbing me.

His teeth are big and strong and white and his jaws work like machinery. He is the strongest man I ever saw, and his gauntness is all muscle. What is that glow a woman gets from feeding a hungry man whom she likes with her own hands; and why should I want to be certain that he kissed the lace on my sleeve as it brushed his face when I reached across him to catch an inquisitive rose that I saw peeping in the window at us?

LEAF FIFTH.

Blue Absinthe.

"The juice of a lemon in two glasses of cold water, to be drunk immediately on wakening!" Page eleven! I've handed myself that lemon every morning now until I am sensitive with myself about it. If there ever was anybody "on the water wagon" it's I, and I have to sit on the front seat from dawn to dusk to get in the gallon of water I'm supposed to consume in that time. Sometime I'm going to get mixed up and try to drink my bath if I don't look out. I dreamed night before last that I was taking a bath in a glass of ice-cream soda-water and trying to hide it from Doctor Johnson behind the dab of ice-cream that seemed inadequate for food or protection. I haven't had even one glass

CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE

CHAPTERS OF A POSSIBLE AUTOBIOGRAPHY

BY THEODORE ROOSEVELT

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THE SOAP-AND-WATER CURE.

President Roosevelt: "As I recently remarked at Nashville, Tenn.: 'During the next sixteen months of my term of office this policy shall be persevered in unswervingly!'"

American Eagle: "Je-hosophat!"

(Cartoon by Bernard Partridge.)

ON September 6, 1901, President McKinley was shot by an Anarchist in the city of Buffalo, I went to Buffalo at once. The President's condition seemed to be improving, and after a day or two we were told that he was practically out of danger. I then joined my family, who were in the Adirondacks near the foot of Mount Tahawus. A day or two afterwards we took a long tramp through the forest, and in the afternoon I climbed Mount Tahawus.

After reaching the top I had descended a few hundred feet to a shelf of land where there was a little lake, when I saw a guide coming out of the woods on our trail from below. I felt at once that he had bad news, and, sure enough, he handed me a telegram saying that the President's condition was much worse and that I must come to Buffalo immediately. It was late in the afternoon, and darkness had fallen by the time I reached the clubhouse where we were staying. It was some time afterwards before I could get a wagon to drive me out to the nearest railway station, North Creek, some 40 or 50 miles distant. The roads were the ordinary wilderness roads and the night was dark. But we changed horses two or three times—when I say "we" I mean the driver and I, as there was no one else with us—and reached the station just at dawn, to learn from Mr. Loeb, who had a special train waiting, that the President was dead. That evening I took the oath of office in the house of Ansley Wilcox, at Buffalo.

No Reversal of Policy.

On three previous occasions the Vice President had succeeded to the Presidency on the death of the President. In each case there had been a reversal of party policy, and a nearly immediate and nearly complete change in the personnel of the higher offices, especially the cabinet. I had never felt that this was wise from any standpoint. If a man is fit to be President, he will speedily so impress himself in the office that the policies pursued will be his anyhow, and he will not have to bother as to whether he is changing them or not; while as regards the offices under him, the important thing for him is that his subordinates shall make a success in handling their several departments. The subordinate is sure to desire to make a success of his department for his own sake, and if he is a fit man, whose views on public policy are sound, and whose abilities entitle him to his position, he will do excellently well under almost any chief with the same purposes.

The Cabinet Unchanged.

I at once announced that I would continue unchanged McKinley's policies for the honor and prosperity of the country, and I asked all the members of the cabinet to stay. There were no changes made among them save as changes were made among their successors whom I myself appointed. I continued Mr. McKinley's policies, changing and developing them and adding new policies only as the questions before the public changed and the needs of the public developed. Some of my friends shook their heads over this, telling me that the men I retained would not be "loyal to me," and that I would seem as if I were "a pale copy of McKinley." I told them that I was not nervous on this score, and that if the men I retained were loyal to their work they would be giving me the loyalty for which I most cared; and that if they were not, I would change them anyhow; and that as for being "a pale copy of McKinley," I was not primarily concerned with either following or not following in his footsteps, but in facing the new problems that arose; and that if I were competent I would find ample opportunity to show my competence by my deeds, without worrying myself as to how to convince people of the fact.

State and Nation.

For the reasons I have already given in my chapter on the governorship of New York, the Republican party, which in the days of Abraham Lincoln, was founded as the radical progressive party of the nation, had been obliged during the last decade of the nineteenth century to uphold the interests of popular government against a foolish and illjudged mock-radicalism. It remained the nationalist as against the particularist or state's rights party, and in so far it remained absolutely sound; for little permanent good can be done by any party which worships the state's rights fetish or which fails to regard the state, like the country or the municipality, as merely a convenient unit for local self-government, while in all national matters, of importance to the whole people, the nation is to be supreme over state, county, and town alike.

But the state's rights fetish, although still effectively used at certain times by both courts and congress to block needed national legislation directed against the huge corporations or in the interests of workingmen, was not a prime issue at the time of which I speak. In 1896, 1898, and 1900 the campaigns were waged on two great moral issues: (1) the imperative need of a sound and honest currency; (2) the need, after 1898, of meeting in manful and straightforward fashion the extra-territorial problems arising from the Spanish war. On these great moral issues the Republican party was right, and the men who were opposed to it, and who claimed to be the radicals, and their allies among the sentimentalists, were utterly and hopelessly wrong.

The Danger From Reactionaries.

This had, regrettably but perhaps inevitably, tended to throw the party into the hands not merely of the conservatives but of the reactionaries; of men who, sometimes for personal and improper reasons, but more often with entire sincerity and uprightness of purpose, distrusted anything that was progressive and dreaded radicalism. These men still from force of habit applauded what Lincoln had done in the way of radical dealing with the abuses of his day; but they did not apply the spirit in which Lincoln worked to the abuses of their own day. Both houses of congress were controlled by these men. Their leaders in the senate were Messrs. Aldrich and Hale. The speaker of the house when I became President was Mr. Henderson, but in a little over a year he was succeeded by Mr. Cannon, who, although widely differing from Senator Aldrich in matters of detail, represented the same type of public sentiment. There are many points on which I agreed with Mr. Cannon and Mr. Aldrich, and some points on which I agreed with Mr. Hale. I made a resolute effort to get on with all three and their followers, and I have no question that they made an equally resolute effort to get on with me. We succeeded in working together, although with increasing friction, for some years, I pushing forward and they hanging back. Gradually, however, I was forced to abandon the effort to persuade them to come my way, and then I achieved results only by appealing over the heads of the senate and house leaders to the people, who were the masters of both of us.

Getting Results.

I continued in this way to get results until almost the close of my term; and the Republican party became once more the progressive and indeed the fairly radical progressive party of the nation. When my successor was chosen, however, the leaders of the house and senate, or most of them, felt that it was safe to come to a break with me, and the last or short session of congress, held between the election of my successor and his inauguration four months later, saw a series of contests between the majorities in the two houses of congress and the President—myself—quite as bitter as if they and I had belonged to oppose radical political parties. However, I held my own. I was not able to push through the legislation I desired during these four months, but I was able to prevent them doing anything I did not desire, or undoing anything that I had already succeeded in getting done.

Faithful Public Servants.

There were, of course, many senators and members of the lower house with whom up to the very last I continued to work in hearty accord, and with a growing understanding. I have not the space to enumerate, as I would like to, these men. For many years Senator Lodge had been my close personal and political friend, with whom I discussed all public questions that arose, usually with agreement; and our intimately close relations were of course unchanged by my entry into the White House. He was of all our public men the man who had made the closest and wisest study of our foreign relations, and more clearly than almost any other man he understood the vital fact that the efficiency of our navy conditioned our national efficiency in foreign affairs. Anything relating to our international relations, from Panama and the navy to the Alaskan boundary question, the Algeciras negotiations, or the peace of Portsmouth, I was certain to discuss with Senator Lodge and also with certain other members of congress, such as Senator Turner of Washington, and Representative Hitt of Illinois. Anything relating to labor legislation and to measures for controlling big business or efficiently regulating the giant railway systems I was certain to discuss with Senator Dolliver or Congressman Hepburn or Congressman Cooper. With men like Senator Beveridge, Congressman (afterwards Senator) Dixon, and Congressman Murdock I was apt to discuss pretty nearly everything relating to either our internal or our external affairs. There were many, many others. Senator Clark of Arkansas, was a fearless and high-minded representative of the people of the United States as I ever dealt with. He was one of the men who combined loyalty to his own state with an equally keen loyalty to the people of all the United States. He was politically opposed to me; but when the interests of the country were at stake, he was incapable of considering party differences; and this was especially his attitude in international matters—including certain treaties which most of his party colleagues, with narrow lack of patriotism, and complete subordination of national to factional interest, opposed. I have never anywhere met finer, more faithful, more disinterested, and more loyal public servants than Senator O. H. Platt, a Republican, from Connecticut, and Senator Cockrell, a Democrat, from Missouri. They were already old men when I came to the presidency; and doubtless there were points on which I seemed to them to be extreme and radical; but eventually they found that our motives and beliefs were the same, and they did all in their power to help any movement that was for the interest of our people as a whole. I had met them when I was civil service commissioner and assistant secretary of the navy. All I ever had to do with either was to convince him that a given measure I championed was right, and he then at once did all he could to have it put into effect. If I could not convince them, why! that was my fault, or my misfortune; but if I could convince them, I never had to think again as to whether they would or would not support me.

"If I Like It, I'll Buy It."

There were many other men of mark in both houses with whom I could work on some points, whereas on others we had to differ. There was one powerful leader—a burly, forceful man, of admirable traits—who had, however, been trained in the post-bellum school of business and politics, so that his attitude towards life, quite unconsciously, reminded me a little of Artemus Ward's view of the Tower of London—"If I like it, I'll buy it." There was a big governmental job in which this leader was much interested, and in reference to which he always wished me to consult a man whom he trusted, whom I will call Pitt Rodney. One day I answered him, "The trouble with Rodney is that he misestimates his relations to cosmos;" to which he responded, "Cosmos—Cosmos? Never heard of him. You stick to Rodney. He's your man!"

Outside of the public servants there were multitudes of men, in newspaper offices, in magazine offices, in business or the professions or on farm or in shops, who actively supported the policies for which I stood and did work of genuine leadership which was quite as effective as any work done by men in public service. Without the active support of these men I would have been powerless. In particular, the leading newspaper correspondents at Washington were, as a whole, a singularly able, trustworthy, and public-spirited body of men, and the most useful of all agents in the fight for efficient and decent government.

The Tennis Cabinet, and Others.

We worked very hard; but I made a point of getting a couple of hours off each day for equally vigorous play. The men with whom I then played, whom we laughingly grew to call the "tennis cabinet," have been mentioned in a previous chapter in connection with the gift they gave me at the last breakfast which they took at the White House. There were many others in the public service under me with whom I happened not to play, but who did their share of our common work just as effectively as it was done by us who did play. Of course nothing coud have been done in my administration if it had not been for the zeal, intelligence, masterful ability, and downright hard labor of these men in countless positions under me. I was helpless to do anything except as my thoughts and orders were translated into action by them; and moreover, each of them, as he grew specially fit for his job, used to suggest to me the right thought to have, and the right order to give, concerning that job. It is of course hard for me to speak with cold and dispassionate partiality of these men, who were as close to me as were the men of my regiment. But the outside observers best fitted to passed judgment about them felt as I did.

At the end of my administration Mr. Bryce, the British ambassador, told me that in a long life, which he had studied intimately the government of many different countries, he had never in any country seen a more eager, high-minded, and efficient set of public servants, men more useful and more creditable to their country than the men then doing the work of the American government in Washington and in the field. I repeat this statement with the permission of Mr. Bryce.

About the same time, or a little before, in the spring of 1908, there appeared in the English "Fortnightly Review" an article, evidently by a competent eye-witness, setting forth more in detail the same views to which the British ambassador thus privately gave expression. It was in part as follows:

"Mr. Roosevelt has gathered around him a body of public servants who are nowhere surpassed, I question whether they are anywhere equaled, for efficiency, self-sacrifice, and an absolute devotion to their country's interests. Many of them are poor men, without private means, who have voluntarily abandoned high professional ambitions and turned their backs on the rewards of business to serve their country on salaries that are not merely inadequate, but indecently so. There is not one of them who is not constantly assailed by offers of positions in the world of commers, finance, and the law that would satisfy every material ambition with which he began life. There is not one of them who could not, if he chose, earn outside Washington from 10 to 20 times the income on which he economizes as a state official. But these men are as indifferent to money and to the power that money brings as to the allurements of Newport and New York, or to merely personal distinctions, or to the commercialized ideals which the great bulk of their fellow-countrymen accept without question. They are content, and more than content without a thought of private advancement, and often at a heavy sacrifice of worldly honors, and to toil on . . . sustained by their own native impulses to make of patriotism an efficient instrument of public betterment."

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Louisville Courier-Journal.

THE high cost of living isn't a myth, of course, but there is a good deal of fictional literature about how cheap many high-grade articles and commodities used to be. A minor poet's lay contains a line to the effect that once upon a time "our very cheapest meal was eggs."

That was true in "the laying season." But there were long periods during which many persons went without eggs. "Eggs are scarce" used to be the familiar statement, whereas it is now "eggs are high priced."

The "laying season" used to begin in springtime, when the hens got their first green forage. It lasted through the warm months. Few eggs were produced in cold weather. Hen feeding was chiefly for the purpose of keeping the fowls alive until spring. It was the rankest empiricism when an effort was being made to get hens to lay regularly out of season.

Thirty years ago in rural Kentucky eggs were sold as low as five or six cents a dozen when they were plentiful, but in the off season the egg gourd was empty most of the time. Eggs were preserved in brine, in bran, in various ways recommended by housewives who exchanged experiences at quilting parties, but if cold storage is bad—and it is when it results in long stored products being fraudulently sold as fresh—home storage was worse. When eggs were scarce those to be had were often what the late Polk Miller's waiter described as "omelet eggs" when the hotel had no "fry" or "boil" eggs in stock.

In the good old days we hear so much about spring chickens were either eaten in the summer, and when they were real, or eaten in sorrow and disillusionment in winter when they were merely scrubby little hens sold as spring chickens. Nowadays broilers are available at almost any time, but are high priced when they are produced out of season.

Thirty years ago the fruit business was in an undeveloped state. Out in the country dried apples and dried peaches alternated in the home bill of fare. Dried apple pies, sometimes called "leather devils,"—although a well-seasoned dried apple pie is very good to eat—were the rule in winter, and pies made from fresh apples were rare exceptions. Bananas in the smaller towns, rated as curiosities. Grape fruit was an undiscovered delicacy. In fact grape fruit at reasonable prices is a very modern product, and really good grape fruit is largely an American product. That is to say the Government pomologists have done a great deal in the way of improving its quality as well as to lower its price by encouraging its propagation.

Tropical fruits are now cheaper and more abundant than they formerly were and the temperate zone fruits are no longer rotting in one section while another section is without them. The consumer pays a good round price, of course, but he can always get what he is willing to pay for. The producer can always sell what he produces. He does not have to hawk a wagon load of apples in a neighborhood traversed by "mud" roads and feed them to the hogs if the neighbors will not buy them at his price or theirs.

Milk was much cheaper 30 years ago than it is nowadays, but it wasn't certified. It wasn't even alleged to be sanitary. The floor of the cowbarn thickened in winter and was carried out by the wagon load in spring to fertilize the garden. When the cow put her foot in the bucket of milk she was merely kicked in the ribs and urged to remove it from the farmer's earned increment. A little sediment in the bottom of a glass of milk was politely overlooked by the city consumer. If typhoid fever was contracted because the milk cans had been washed in contaminated water the family physician confidently assured the patient his system was throwing off poison. The fever, in the event of its not proving fatal, would be worth more to the patient than the charges for medical services, the doctor said, and he thought what he said was true.

Drinking water is bought in bottles nowadays by many persons. It costs a good deal as a commodity, but is less expensive as an agent of disease and death than the crystal contents of the old oaken bucket used sometimes to be.

There were certain disadvantages in the good old days of our daddies. The glamour that time sheds on the past cannot obscure them utterly. But of course many persons of the younger generation can be imposed upon by fiction artists who like to dip their brushes into the silver that lined the clouds and paint out the clouds.

What He Was Afraid Of.

New York Globe.

A lady with a wasplike waist fainted in the street the other day and was carried into the nearest shop. An Irishman who had observed the occurrence looked into the shop after a few minutes and inquired:

"How is she now?"

"Oh," replied the shopman, "she's coming to."

"Ah," replied Pat, "come in two, has she? Poor thing! Bedad, it's just what I was afraid of."

Abe Martin

No girl is ever so sure o' a feller's love that she'll let him see her before breakfast.

The MIDLANDERS

BY CHARLES TENNEY JACKSON

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CHAPTER XII.—Continued.

"What she done say, Mr. Curran?"

"Fine! Says you'd look good to her, now, Uncle Mich. She's having the time of her life. Everybody's good to her, and helps her, and the McFetridge boys are just grand, and everything's grand." Wiley looked shining-eyed around: "That's the most of it—just grand."

"Wiley," said Aunt Abby severely, "I did hope she'd not get her head turned!"

"Not a bit. She says: "Uncle Mich., the first night I was scared, and when I walked out there and tried to see over the lights I just wilted—inside! Mr. Gratz stood in the wings with the book, and Hen McFetridge kept waving to me not to cross so far, and Mr. Feldman kept whispering something from the other side, so I guess I must have looked scared. I tried to speak and couldn't say a word, and I looked hopelessly off, and there was Mr. Hanbury having a regular fit because I was going to spoil his play. He kept shouting to himself and dancing around—"Dried—I knew it!" Then that made me mad, and I got at him, and then I heard what Morris Feldman was trying to whisper, and I said, "Father, I am here." And just right, too, Sol Gratz says—just like the haughty young beauty I was supposed to be, who's under suspicion of being a thief. Because I was mad at Mr. Hanbury and his old play! And every time I lost my lines they all helped me—every one, and you ought to have seen what the papers said'" cried Mr. Curran—"I wish I'd seen that."

"Go on," said Uncle Michigan "When's she coming home?"

"Don't say," answered Wiley. "Says the hotels are pretty bad, and the theatres are cold and dirty, but it's just a glory! Oh, lord—Aurelie!"

"Likes it?" queried Aunt Abby, from her doughnuts.

"Says she's got a mission! To uplift the stage! Oh, lord—Aurelie!"

"But when's she comin' home?" quavered Uncle Michigan.

And looking in Michigan's eye, Mr. Curran saw a tear.

"She doesn't say, Uncle Mich. She just says she's sending a number of things for 'you-all" out at the Pocket—with the first money she ever earned! Christmas presents for you and Knute and Peter and the baby, and Albert and Mrs. Lindstrom—and for John.

"And John, he prayed so mighty hard he chased her off the place! Reckon she's the same old girl, Mr. Curran?"

"Sure, I think so, Uncle Michigan."

"Don't reckon this yere stage business'll ever change her a mite, Mr. Curran?"

"Hope not, Uncle Michigan. Darn the smoke—it's getting in our eyes, ain't it?" Mr. Curran coughed and spluttered; he didn't want to see the tears on Michigan's whiskers. The old man thumped the wooden leg on the box and against the stove preparing to get out of the house. "Uncle Michigan," said Mr. Curran, "stay to supper and we'll talk about Aurelie. Gee whiz, I hope that little girl makes good!"

"You want me to stay for supper?" Uncle Michigan turned to Aunt Abby—"You're church folks, and I done been an ole whisky peddler Johnny Reb."

"You done been an old fool, Uncle Michigan! You sit right here till supper's ready!"

"Right here till supper's ready!" added Mr. Curran. "Here's some more of this letter——"

"But not a word about comin' home!"

"She'll get home. She says up in Waterloo the comedian got drunk and nearly busted up the show. And that night they had to cut out her big situation."

"What?" gasped Aunt Abby; "cut out her what?"

"I swear——"

"Well, it can't be serious or they'd telegraphed!"

"I guess so. She says Mr. Hanbury changes his play so much they can't just keep up with it in rehearsals, but that Sol Gratz thinks pretty soon they'll get it all over."

"Get over what—the operation, I suppose, Wiley?"

"She's picking up this stage slang so fast she must be getting on. I swear it's a fine letter."

Aunt Abby was peeking at it over his shoulder. "What's that? She asks if anyone ever hears from Harlan Van Hart?"

Wiley sighed. "Yes. She—sort of knew Harlan." He folded up the letter and handed it to Uncle Michigan, who stared at it as if it was a jewel.

"I reckon," mumbled Uncle Michigan, "you done better keep this in your safe back at the office, Mr. Curran."

"That safe rusted shut in '96, Uncle Mich—the time the creek flooded the News office—and it's never been opened since."

"Well, you better keep this letter in the clock, Mr. Curran—or somewhere. I wouldn't lose it for the best leg I got." He handed it back to Mr. Curran, and the editor locked it in the clock case. "When I git lonesome, I'll come up here and we'll read it all over again. Kind o' lonesome at the ole place. John, he's sourin' on the world. Keeps the boys cuttin' brush. And the baby's ailin'. And the woman's fretti'n'. Seems like the sun don't shine so bright since Aurelie went away."

"Don't you worry, Uncle Mich. She'll come back rich and famous, and everybody'll be happy, and she'll give a show in the tin opera-house."

Uncle Michigan's eyes shone again. "Just as Ole Captain Tinkletoes prophesied down in Louisiany! She'll done grow up to occupy the land!"

Mr. Curran's eyes shone, too. He had been told Aurelie's fantastic story, oh, these many times! He had gilded it, enshrined it—loved it.

"Our little girl, Uncle Mich!" he cried. "Out in the big world fighting her way, and not being scared! I never think of how she came to me, but I want to gather her up and shelter her, protect her"—he stopped slowly—"love her—"he sighed. Then he turned away from them and looked down the hill to his shop. "Eh, well! I reckon I am the man who is in a state of arrested development concerning women!"

CHAPTER XIV.

Back to the Old Town.

Spring comes about Rome by simple tokens. In the black bottoms the willows gently free themselves from the soiling snow, bend upward ever so lightly, and presently are wands of furry gray. In the clay gaps of the hills one hears the tinkle of water under ice and over rock, answering the first call of the robins. The rabbit tracks along the fences drabble down to mere muddy markings in the snow and then are lost in the first faint green. Also, in town, housewives hang their rugs on the porches and beat them, stopping to look up at the blue and breathe, as if the winter's housing had taken a bit out of their souls which now was coming back; and one sees the children digging their toes into the mud on their way to school, testing eagerly its release from the frost.

But chiefly, in Rome people know spring has come when Rube Van Hart disappears. When the former leaguer began to climb the hills in February and look off south and when his work in Carmichael's stable grew slack and his eyes vacant and his promise to coach the high school ball team more vague and when he came silently in the News office to read the "pink-uns" of the Chicago papers, paid no attention to Jim Mims, the tramp printer asking for a chew, or to Wiley when he asked who looked good for the second cushion with the Cubs since Delehanty was sold—paid no attention to anyone at all, but wandered down to the Junction and dreamily read the names of the box cars jogging down the cut, why then it was safe to set out garden truck—spring had come.

Then the News announced that Rufus Adrian Van Hart, one-time catcher with the Cubs, had gone south to help with the spring try-outs at San Antonio and would also get himself in condition. This pleased Rube and all the town kids and hurt nobody. Poor old Rube was merely stowed in a box car, getting away just because spring called and baseball was here and he could not help it. Among the Van Harts there was no accounting for Rube.

And when Rube came back to town the women knew it was near time to take in house plants and let the children go for hazelnuts, and resume the lapsed work of the Shakes, are Club. With Rube watch for a nip of frost.

But now spring, and Uncle Michigan spading up Mr. Curran's garden, disputing with his housekeeper while they knelt in the black damp earth over a package of seeds magnanimously distributed by the Honorable James S. Hall, M. C. Their voices came to the editor at his desk. Jim Mims had gone to the blind tiger in the haymow of Carmichael's livery stable, and Aleck, the press boy, had stolen off to Sin Creek to see if it was yet good bullhead fishing.

"If I'm ever going to congress" murmured the editor, "I must fire this spring fever and scold everybody into working." He was watching Janet Vance tie her team of colts to the county-yard hitching-rail, her trim blue figure against the young e'm green. She looked at her watch decisively. It was early for a county officer to be

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

Iron for Pear Blight

New York Sun.

A CONTRIBUTOR to the Fruit Grower says that unless pears are planted in clayey soil blight is sure to overcome them. As an illustration of his success he writes in the shade of a Bartlett pear tree of about 13 years' planting, nearly 14 feet high, with a spread of 10 feet or more. "I approve of the cutting back system on most fruit trees," he says, "especially slender growers like peaches and plums." The trees will live longer and are less liable to break down with fruit. It also makes the branches stronger and prevents the wind whipping off the heavy fruit.

As the soil is sandy, clay is hauled and about a bushel dropped where a tree is to be set, with 10 or 15 pounds of old iron. When the trees are set the clay and old iron are mixed with the soil. This, he says, causes the trees to grow faster, live longer, resist the hard winters (40 degrees below zero in Michigan) and late freezing when in bloom.

During 1911, when some old trees looked bad after an unusually severe winter, the earth was dug away from the trees for eight feet in diameter, as deep as the roots would allow, and clay and old iron were filled in, then mulch was added, and finally more clay and soil. The result was an unusually fine crop of pears the next season.

If you have apple trees and wish the apples to hang on, put old iron in around the roots is the recommendation of the same writer.

The editor of the Fruit Grower says that "while I agree as to the mixing of clay with the sandy soil for pears, I can not so positively accept the theory that old iron is desirable or helpful."

We suggest that the editor of the Fruit Grower try the experiment with his pears. When a small boy I was informed by an older brother that nails driven into pear trees would prevent blight, and I now have pear trees more than 20 years old that have never been affected in the slightest degree—and every tree as soon as it was large enough had a circle of iron nails driven into the trunk a foot or so above the ground, and some probably were treated with several such circles of nails, one above the other.

I have taken old pear trees that seemed to have outlived their usefulness and by filling the trunks with nails, cutting back the top growth quite severely and giving sufficient fertilizer and good cultivation brought them back to bearing good fruit in abundance. From this experience it does seem as though the iron was entitled to its share of credit in the work, but I never before heard of any one else using iron for pears to substantiate the results of my experiments.

WOMEN SUBJECT TO KIDNEY TROUBLES.

I beg to say that I have been a constant sufferer with severe pains in my back and was on the verge of nervous prostration resulting from kidney trouble and other complications. A friend of mine recommended Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root as a sure cure for these troubles. Acting upon her advice, I began taking Swamp-Root and began to improve before I had finished the first bottle. I continued its use until I had taken several bottles and continued to improve until I was completely cured. I am happy to say that I am as well as any woman on earth and have been so for the past nine years, thanks to Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and I cheerfully recommend it to all who suffer from kidney troubles. Very truly yours,

MRS. ALVA BAXTER,
407 Cypress St., Orange, Texas.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21st day of March, 1912.
JOHN J. BALL, Notary Public.

Letter to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y.

Prove What Swamp-Root Will Do For You

Send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample size bottle. It will convince anyone. You will also receive a booklet of valuable information, telling all about the kidneys and bladder. When writing, be sure and mention The Toledo Weekly Blade. Regular fifty-cent and one-dollar size bottles for sale at all drug stores.

The Midlanders

CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.

downtown. She came across the street with her direct and springy step and to the News door. The editor took his feet off the desk and waved his hand lazily.

"Janet, let's go fishing. Let's get Old Mowry's wagon and take Aunt Abby and Jim Mims—if he's sober—and Mich and Aleck and all go fishing."

"Wiley, that's what you've always done the first spring weather. But this year—now—"

"Don't finish it. Now—congress—"

"I drove in behind your back lot," she went on calmly, "and I see that the W. C. T. U. ladies are right. The size of that pile of beer bottles in your alley! Just suppose you'd bought books all your life instead of beer?"

"Janet," Curran smiled at her, "I never had a place to put the books all my life. But there's always been a place for the beer."

She looked at him in her old despair. "Now—now—" he went on and waved a hand at her, "don't scold. I'm up—I'm doing! In for a career—congress—anything! But the weather, Janet! Can't a fellow sit once in a while over his pipe—and watch you through the smoke, perhaps—and dream?"

She shook her head. "I know," he went on lugubriously. "The problem with the new woman is, will she ever let a man go fishing?"

She smiled but continued her directness: "Tom Purcell, of Earlville, is going to take active management of your campaign this summer. The committee of the Progressive League decided on him."

He shrugged. Up the cliff back of his shop the bluebirds were calling. The committee of the nascent Progressive League—and Janet — had kept Mr. Curran plugging rather steadily all winter. He had addressed farmers' institutes and gone to state conferences of the Progressives, had met Governor Delroy and the men of the state organization—"glad-handed around the circle," as he put it—and had also gone among the men of his own county—lodge meetings, church fairs, district-school entertainments. And on Anne's visits from school they had taken long drives to lonely precincts where they had discussed farm problems from Arne's new angles, and Wiley had told the men simply and frankly that he wanted them to vote for him in the primary.

"I don't know any other politics," he assured Janet.

"You don't need to. The county crowd knows now your candidacy is not a joke. I hear Judge Van Hart has written Congressman Hall that he'd better come home and look over his constituency. They feel you, Wiley!"

Wiley opened a benign eye. "Apparently, Tanner and Rice and Boydston are organizing this Retail Merchants' Association, the secret motive of which is to get the town's advertising withheld from the News. That's one angle of the fight. Janet, I shan't have an advertiser left except the undertaker and he wants me to take it out in trade."

"Be serious, Wiley!" she retorted—and then Uncle Michigan stuck his old squirrel-skin cap in the window.

"April, Mr. Wiley, and dewberries are ripe down in Louisiany!"

"And the mocking birds are singing in the canebrakes, Uncle Mich!"

"And if my ole house-boat wasn't done stuck hard and fast up yere—and if my little girl hadn't done gone off in the show business, I'd—"

"Uncle Mich!" roared the candidate, pounding the desk—"shut up, or I'll never get to congress! Bluebirds up Eagle Point! Bullhead fishing! Aunt Abby sowing lettuce! Get out of here with it all! Take April with you!"

"Uncle Michigan," smiled Miss Vance, "we're trying to talk business. Now you know that business and Mr. Wiley—"

"Fine!" cried the candidate—"Uncle Mich—"

Old Mich took off his cap. "Miss Vance, I know what gets Mr. Wiley. Done been my little girl!"

Miss Vance was impassive, Mr. Curran amiably evasive. "Your little girl? Mich, you old scoundrel, you haven't a sign of title to her. Why don't you tell us all—who was Aurelie, to begin with, and who was Captain Tinkletoes? It isn't right to wink and grin when people ask you about her—people never know what to believe!"

"Reckon decent people believe only what's good—and the others don't count. But my little girl come of better stock than those big bugs on High street."

"Well, who?"

Then Uncle Michigan did his abominable old trick. He leaned close and shut one eye tight and opened the other very wide, drew up his face so that the white whiskers, sticking out in all directions, made his face like a sunflower. Then he exploded his famous joke: "She done come from the Holy Family!"

Then he doubled over with laughter. That settled them! He roared it to Father Doyle when the good priest tried to settle Aurelie's patrimony; he chuckled it to Aunt Abby and the Epworth League ladies; he discomfited Mr. Curran and all the town with it—his little girl was descended from the Holy Family!

"Uncle Michigan," put in Miss Vance distantly, "what is Aurelie doing these days?"

"I dun-no exactly. Mr. Wiley will read you her letters."

"Mr. Wiley!" She looked at him. Mr. Wiley sighed. "Got a telegram from Hen McFetridge yesterday. They played to S. R. O. at Marshaltown. And another one from Cedar Rapids says: 'Biggest house here since ninety-six.' Janet"—he looked at her with the first burst of enthusiasm she had seen this morning—"Aurelie's a winner!"

The woman of 30 was looking off to the hills. "Wiley, I wouldn't publish all the things you do about her in the News. It's not good taste—all those press notices and things. And it doesn't do you any good in your new—career." She had hesitated and looked full at him. Uncle Michigan had gone back to scratching his garden bed. "The town says—" again she paused at his resentful wonder.

"The town says what?"

"That you must be rather in love with Aurelie."

He was on his feet before her. "Janet! They say that?"

"Well, you've run on in such enthusiasm about her. Of course it's just your way."

"My way? I cannot help what the town says. The town made an outcast of me much as it did of Aurelie in the old days. But by George, Janet—this!"

"She is the sort you would love, Wiley. With all her courage, the brave fight, as you say she is making—she is one of the superlatively feminine sort—or at least what you men stupidly imagine is the really feminine. Appealing to your absurd chivalry, as you call it; but actually your vanity—clinging to you and so giving you an enlarged sense of your strength, your wisdom, your indispensibleness to womankind! Come now"—she smiled good homoredly—"isn't that the type of woman you like best?"

He faced her with a hurt laugh; she had begun with a touch of bitterness which ha common sense subdued.

"The parasite? Not the woman who can help—and who dares demand! You men are all primitive in your ideas of women, Wiley."

"Janet," he answered slowly, "you don't understand. A child, misplaced, hurt, proud, struggling for the bit of good she sees—that is what I saw in Aurelie. I don't deny her appeal. I've felt like taking her in my arms and saying: 'Why, you dear kid, you ought not to be in this business!—knocking about cheap hotels and in such shows. You ought to have a home—a shelter—some one—'"

"That is just it." She smiled impersonally, and briefly. "Well, no matter, Wiley. Only I wondered why the bluebirds were calling to you this morning, and not congress! It is spring, Wiley!"

But Mr. Curran was put ou and angry. He did not want her to divert the matter with her serenely measuring smile. "Janet!" he cried again. "I don't love her—no, no!"

"No—no! Merely attracted. As you are to book-poster girls and the magazine-cover girls!" She laughed now. "Oh, well the eternal masculine!" Then she turned to him stubbornly. "But you are coming through this fight — this campaign — this man's work for us all."

"Yes," he answered quietly. "I will. And you've hurt me, Janet. But perhaps you were intending to."

She left him with another banter. He had a feeling that she was guessing shrewdly at the struggle dimly growing in his mind; he was trying to grasp her larger standards, her victorious self as a woman of the time, and his yielding to the common thrall of men in this chit of a girl. And he gave it up as a bad job, and turned to his work. But he observed that he did work the rest of the day, savagely and with effect. He would not listen to the bluebirds.

Bluebirds and spring ushered in full June. With his shop and his outer activities he was busied, but not too busied to read the scrawly letters from Aurelie which Uncle Mich brought. Things had happened. The McFetridge combination had barnstormed the Northwest and then booked into a Chicago stock house. Then it lost the money garnered on one-night stands. The city did not seem to recognize last year's winner of the beauty contest. The Chronicle, having worked its subscription lists as far as might be on the exploitation, was rather indifferent to Miss Lindstrom. Other reviews were perfunctory. Morris Feldman said it was Mr. Hanbury's "rotten" play. But every one cheerfully admitted that, even young Mr. Hanbury of the Dubuque Register.

All this between lines of Aurelie's exuberant letters. She was undaunted. She was expanding vivaciously, throwing herself into work, living every minute. Her first glimpse of a city fascinated her. She bewildered Uncle Michigan with her adventures.

"That limb of a girl," commented Aunt Abby, "she ought to be home. It isn't doing her a mite of good, Wiley."

"Home?" murmured Mr. Curran. "Where is Aurelie's home?"

"She ought to be gathered up and taken care of!"

"Yes." Mr. Curran sighed. "I think so too, now."

The next they heard was of a wrangle between the McFetridges and Morris Feldman. Then Mr. Feldman was "out," and the "house was dark" and she was boarding with Miss Norman, who was a "perfect dear." Then the company reorganized with a lot of expensive scenery and a new play which the "angels" had procured. Then they had a summer booking and Aurelie was to be "leading lady!" Out in the west again somewhere! So Aurelie put it.

Mr. Curran was struck dumb. Aurelie a "leading lady!" He could not kick his job press that day. "That girl," he mused, "must just be running that show and the twins and everything!"

"Done goin' to occupy the land!" chuckled Uncle Michigan.

One afternoon when the sugar trees over the town were summer-heavy, and from the uplands came the faint click-click of the first mowers, and the young corn was high across the black bottoms, Mr. Curran, looking up from his press, saw the Van Hart surrey at his door. It held two suit cases and a bulldog the like of which in joy and legs Rome, Iowa, had never before seen. And a broad-shouldered young man was descending. Mr. Curran threw proofs to the wind and seized his hands.

"Harlan! Back to the old town!"

"Fine! Going to stay, Wiley. Not exactly at the head of my class, but I got through comfortably." Harlan drew himself up and looked across at the dingy windows of his father's old law offices above the bank. "I'm going to buck into the work, the worst you ever saw, Wiley."

"It's great. So many of our young men drift West or to the cities. But you—right here with the home folks."

"Right here." He looked at his friend with the old affectionate intimacy. "I hear, Wiley, you're going to run for congress!"

"Yes. They got me into it. We'll make Hall busy, too."

Harlan smiled gravely. "Father wrote me about it."

Wiley glanced up at him. "You're father isn't for me, Harlan. And he's a pretty big man. But—eastern. We're rattling on pretty strong for 'em out here! Direct elections for senators, the initiative, the recall of judges — the control of wealth by the state — the new democracy, boy. But you know all of it. The old dreams we used to argue in the News shop! Why we—the old News and I—we sort of raised you, Harlan. We made you as much as Harvard!"

Harlan smiled. Wiley's eyes were shining. They had a great brother love, a faith, a pride.

What's got into you, Wiley? You're changed—you're awakened! Your campaign—the big fight ahead? Is that it?"

"I shouldn't wonder! Everything seems changed. Even the old town—God bless it, it's come to seem green and fair and livable! Yes, I awakened, Harlan. So's the old town! We're even going to have a new building—the McFetridge twins are going to remodel the tin opera house."

"Yes?"

"And they've got a new show out. And the leading woman is little Aurelie Lindstrom!"

His friend's face had hardened. "Yes," Harlan muttered.

"You knew?"

"Yes. I read of it—I sort of followed her—in the reviews." Harlan was gathering up the lines. "Wiley,—I—wish I had saved her!"

Wiley's hand closed over Harlan's on the dashboard. "Boy," he murmured, "I didn't mean to bring this old matter up." Then his face lit with a sudden exaltation as if he had put a great hope to the test. "Tell me—do you love that girl, Harlan!"

"I did love her once," retorted Harlan squarely. "You might have guessed why I wanted her out of this. And you got her into it!"

"And now?" Wiley muttered. But Harlan drove on suddenly and without looking back. The older man watched him with a feeling that the fine zest of spring had failed in him. He seemed trampling on some rugged loyalty to the best thing in life—the faith of friends. He sighed as he went back to his shop. "Got her into it? Bless her, I did! But I couldn't explain to any one what it's meant to me!"

But the bluebirds in the maples did not call so jubilantly as they had the summer long.

To Be Continued.

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Cash for Raw Furs — Why sell your skins at home when you can send them to us and save all middlemen's profits? New York is the best market in America. We pay cash for hides of Skunks, Minks, Coons, Opossums, Foxes, etc. Thirty years in the business. No commission charged. We stand express charges. Write for price list. BELT, BUTLER CO., Exporters, 2 East 12th St., New York

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THE FARMSTEAD

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following questions are submitted to readers for answers. We do this in the hope of getting results of actual and successful experiments, which will be the most valuable answers.

Will some reader kindly tell how to treat a horse with bowel trouble?—C., Harwood, Wash.

We have a five-year-old cow that has had her third calf, but now we are unable to get her with calf. Have used permanganate of potash. Will some one please advise us in this matter?—C., Joplin, Mo.

I would like to know how to make hot beds for growing sweet potato plants. When is the best time to set cut sweet potatoes to get plants?—R., Proctor, W. Va.

I have a horse colt, one year and eight months old that is unable to get on its feet after lying down without help. It seems to feel all right, eats good and walks well. It has been this way for about three weeks. I give a wheat bran and condition powder every morning. Any information will be much appreciated.—B., Sugar Run, Pa.

Will some one please tell what causes a five-year-old mare to become lame every winter and remain that way for about one month? The lameness seems to be in the shoulder and makes the shoulder stiff.—D., Hendersonville, N. C.

Grow More Lambs.

The farmer who will keep breeding stock and grow lambs of uniform size and breed will make good money if he feeds intelligently and markets them at the right rate. Often when a flock of native lambs are sent to the market they are so badly mixed in breed and size that they are a torment to the buyer and not much profit to the owner.

One reason why the western lambs sell so well on the market is that they are more uniform in size. There lambs are grown on the range. They all come about the same week and get about the same attention, so are about the same size when put into the fattening pen.

The growing of lambs is simply a side issue on the average farm. It has not had the consideration it deserves. One old Scotchman said he could begin with ten ewes and in ten years pay for the best farm in his county. He may have been exaggerating it a little, but he was a very successful grower of sheep and had gotten rich at the business. My experience with 20 sheep on a small farm has convinced me that there is no stock more profitable. At weaning time lambs have brought as high as $4 and $5. Twenty lambs brought in close to $100, and there was wool from the flock. What kind of farm animals will beat this for the amount of money invested and the quantity of feed consumed?

One should remember that a flock of sheep will live on a weed or brush patch in the summer time. In the winter clover hay and a ration of oats will keep them in prime condition. Shelter them well and they will take less feed than any animal about the place. Sheep are not vicious with one another. They take little room. A shed 10 feet wide and 30 feet long will shelter 40 or 50 and sometimes even more. — Chicago Weekly Inter-Ocean.

LIVE STOCK

Sheep in Winter.

Unless special attention is paid to the sheep in the fall, they will begin to go down in flesh before winter sets in. If they are already going down in flesh and the additional strain of cold weather is put upon their constitutions it is very hard to check this downward tendency in their condition. A lack of good nourishing food and exposure, together, tends very strongly toward a diseased flock.

Carelessness in managing the flock during the fall and winter seasons probably is responsible for more diseased sheep than any other cause. We are ready to charge the dog with all of our sheep troubles, and he surely is a great drawback to the sheep industry, but he is by no means justly charged with all of the troubles of the sheep and wool industry. More sheep die from neglect and from disease than from any other cause.

If a ewe is to produce a good lamb and a good fleece each year, she must be well cared for the entire year. She must have plenty of good, nourishing food to keep her in good condition, else the fleece will be light and of poor quality.

Besides this, she must have sufficient food to nourish a lamb for several months during the year.

A large part of the sheep's food should be bulky and a part of it of a succulent nature, such as turnips and clover or cowpea hay in winter, and good nourishing pasture during summer.

The sheep should be protected from winter storms, and especially from rain, as cold and a wet fleece combined are very hard on the sheep. They should have some grain during the winter season, and should have a food rich in protein, especially during the season that the lambs depend largely upon their dams for their food. Wheat bran is an excellent food during this part of the season, and in fact it is a good sheep feed at all seasons.

Silage for Beef Cattle.

The Missouri experiment station has recently published the results of some careful tests of corn silage as feed for beef cattle.

It was found that a ton of silage was approximately equal to one-half ton of clover hay when fed in connection with shelled corn and linseed oil meal, or with shelled corn and clover hay, or with shelled corn, linseed oil meal and clover hay.

Etimated on the basis of net profit per steer, a ton of dry matter in the form of corn silage yielded 50.3 per cent greater value than a ton of dry matter in the form of shock corn.

A ration in which silage and clover hay were used was much more profitable than a ration in which silage constituted the only roughage.

One of the most conspicuous features of the test was the notable superiority of the ration in which linseed oil meal was used and those in charge of the tests concluded that "it is desirable to feed some high protein concentrate in the ration, if the most extensive use is to be made of corn silage in fattening cattle."

The results indicate that fattening cattle which received corn silage as the only roughage do not continue to do well for longer than about 90 days. A superior finish is obtained on fattening cattle which are marketed in the spring when silage composes a part of the ration.

A lot of steers which received a ration of shelled corn, linseed oil meal, corn silage and clover hay made the greatest gains in live weight, produced the most economical gains, were the best finished and yielded the greatest profit.

Salting Hogs.

This simple sounding task is neglected on more farms than any other thing. Most farmers aim to give their hogs salt in some way or other; but many farmers do not give the salt in the proper manner.

Salt should be mixed with some other ingredients when it is given to hogs. One method is to mix it with wood ashes half and half. A better way is to mix up a combination of articles along with the salt.

A dime's worth of lump copperas should be procured at the drug store. Take five or six lumps of copperas and pulverize them real fine with a hammer. Mix this powder with a gallon of salt. Then take a gallon of wood ashes and add a pint of powdered charcoal. Mix the salt and copperas mixture and the ashes and charcoal mixture together in a broad flat box.

The hogs now have a preparation which is inexpensive and at the same time will act as a conditioner and health food. The charcoal absorbs gases in the digestive tract. The ashes help digestion by keeping the hog's alimentary canal free from worms. The copperas purifies the animal's blood and is a disease preventative. The salt in the mixture causes the hogs to eat it freely.

When heavy feeding is in progress this mixture is especially valuable.

Feeding an Orphan Colt.

A colt only two months of age should be fed milk as well as grain. At first cows' milk should be modified to make it more nearly like the mother's milk in consistency. Cows' milk is richer in fat but contains less sugar than mare's milk, consequently some water should be fed with it and also some sugar added. About a dessert spoonful of granulated sugar should be added to each feed of milk, and about half as much water as cow's milk. It is also well to all two or three tablespoonfuls of lime water as an aid to digestion. This is made by placing a lump of lime in a bucket of water, then pouring off the first water and refilling the bucket. Only small feeds of milk should be given, and the sugar may be eliminated gradually as the colt becomes accustomed to the cow's milk. The milk should always be fed from a clean pail, and if any signs of "scouring" appear, the ration should be reduced. If the colt becomes constipated, give a three or four ounce dose of castor oil. When the colt reaches an age of three months, it can safely be fed skim-milk and a liberal grain ration. A colt two months old needs grain feed, but should not have corn. Ground oats and bran make the ideal ration for colts of this age, and while only a small feed may be given at first, this may be gradually increased with profit until the colt is getting all it will eat up clean twice a day.

Electric Wood Seasoning

New York Times.

In describing his latest researches in the electrical seasoning of timber, says the Electrical Review of London, Dr. Nodon claims that his process can be applied in the forest where the trees are felled, since no cumbrous or costly equipment is required. The process depends on the electrolysis of cellulose and its derivatives. The newly felled trees are sawn into thick planks and laid on a false flooring, one on top of the other, with the interposition, however, of moistened matting, or similar material between each layer, to act as electrodes for introduction of an alternating current which is passed for ten hours or so.

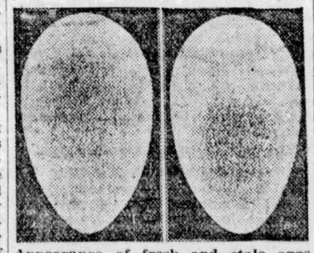
The effect of the current is to produce chemical changes in the cellulose and the sap, rendering them impervious to decay. Further, the sap loses those gummy and hygroscopic characteristics which normally prevent rapid drying. It is claimed that timber thus treated is ready for use a few weeks after it is felled and is harder, stronger, more homogeneous, easier to work, and less warped by moisture than timber which has been seasoned by the ordinary air-drying process.

Paving blocks treated by the Nodon process are said to have been in use at Bordeaux for six years without showing appreciable deterioration.

Neglect Causes Great Waste

In eggs and poultry we have an agricultural product of enormous money value, considered either individually or by comparison with our other agricultural productions. About 89 per cent of our farmers raise chickens, hence, eggs may be said to be a universal food, as well as a food of high nutritive value. The output of eggs is steadily growing, but the demand is growing even faster than the supply, due to the increased price of meat, as well as a preference for eggs as food.

Though the production of eggs is so widespread, only 11 states produce more than are consumed within their own borders, and this production does not cover the entire year, but only those months when climatic conditions are favorable to laying. If one considers the number of months each year when climatic conditions preclude egg production almost entirely over much of our egg-producing territory, it is plain that some provision for these months of scarcity must be made from the season of plenty if eggs are to appear the year round on the tables of any except wealthy people. Therefore, we must study, and work for increased egg production.



Appearance of fresh and stale eggs before the candle—a. Fresh egg; b. Stale, shrunken egg.

The difference in prices paid for the different grades of eggs varies with the season and the market prices for the different grades in the consuming markets. In the spring, when egg production is at its flood, and eggs are cheapest, the difference in price may be as low as 2 cents a dozen. In the fall, when the hens are not laying freely and the prices for strictly fresh eggs are soaring, the price may differ as much as 14 cents a dozen between the highest and lowest grades of marketable eggs. As an example of the variations that may be paid, one southern poultry shipper in November, 1912, paid 35 cents a dozen for large, clean, absolutely fresh eggs; 28 cents for a second grade which were slightly smaller, but clean and a little less fresh; and 21 cents for a third grade, consisting of small, dirty and stale eggs; rotten eggs were not purchased at any price. The average market price for eggs in his vicinity at the time was 27 cents.

Let us see what sorts of eggs are found on our markets. Here are rotten, broken, cracked, dirty, stale and shrunken eggs, and last—unfortunately many times least—are the fresh, sound, clean eggs, which the market calls "firsts." The causes contributing to this list of undesirable and loss-producing grades are mainly three: (1) Climatic conditions; (2) careless or deliberately bad marketing; (3) poor care of the poultry on the farm. Eggs are graded for market according to size, freedom from dirt and cracks and freshness.

Size, cleanliness, cracks and color may be readily determined by inspection. Freshness, in the sense of a high quality, firm-bodied egg, is determined by a process known as "candling." The egg candle consists of a bright light, protected on all sides by an opaque shield in which are one or two oval holes a little smaller than the egg. The eggs are firmly pressed against these holes and, as the light shines through, the yolk and white may be seen, as well as the air space at the large end of the egg and any foreign bodies that may be present.

An egg which has just been laid and is still warm, entirely fills the shell. But as it cools to the temperature of the air it contracts, leaving a small space at the large end of the egg empty. As the egg ages, this space increases in size, due to the escape of moisture from the egg through its shell. When the air space becomes pronounced—it may in extreme cases occupy almost half the shell—the egg is known as "shrunken." The size of the air spaces is determined by candling.

A fresh egg, held before the candle, shows the yolk but faintly as a reddish ball in the center of the shell. As the egg ages the position and opacity of the yolk change; it becomes freely moveable, perhaps rising, perhaps falling, in the shell and acquiring sharper outlines. "Stale" eggs are classified by these characteristics and are undesirable because of loss of quality and money value. The rotten egg before the candle is opaque, or dark colored. Rottenness may be caused by a developing chick or by the growth of fungi. Rotten eggs are a total loss. A "spot rot" is an egg in which the yolk has stuck to the shell or to which fungi have formed a visible growth and is due to long holding. These eggs are lost as foodstuff, but can be used by tanners.

Candling eggs shows up the defects—c. fungus, "spot" egg; d. rotten egg.

"Cheeks" are eggs showing cracks, either those which are "blind," that is, very small, or larger ones which do not permit the contents to escape. Eggs with their shells badly broken are called "leakers." Such eggs are sold for food but at a low price.

"First quality" eggs are fresh, large, weighing at least 45 pounds to a case of 30 dozen, clean, and with sound shells.

"Seconds" are clean, sound-shelled eggs, which are undersized and which may be fresh; or they may be shrunken and stale from long holding. "Dirties," which need no definition, are of varying size and freshness, but are always sold at a lower price.

Many egg buyers go from farm to farm candling eggs and explaining the grades to the farmer when purchasing eggs. The usual "candle" carried by these buyers is made from a pasteboard rolled into a tube, through which he looks at the eggs to determine the quality by the sunlight transmitted through it.

POULTRY

Green Food for Hens.

The effect of feeding green food in some form to laying hens in winter will be observed in a few days by the increase in the egg production. It makes no difference how much grain is fed to the flock in winter, if the green ration be omitted for a short time, a falling off in the quantity of eggs produced will be perceptible.

I have frequently noticed early in the spring when the first tender green stuff appeared, that, with but little grain fed, my hens would show an increase in their egg production that one would not think possible. Of course, I do not mean that hens will lay if fed upon green food alone. They must have some grain food every month during the year, but in winter there is nothing to be obtained outside in the shape of green stuff, and to be successful with the flock, a green or succulent ration must be provided.

Two years ago I read in a farm paper that white clover, when mown in summer, when in full bloom, would furnish a desirable substitute for green food for poultry in winter. Last year, having an abundance of it growing upon my place, I mowed quite a lot and stored it away in a dry place, after thoroughly curing it, to be tried the following winter. I found it to be excellent, as the hens would pick every leaf and blossom off, leaving nothing but the stem. I placed the dried clover in an iron vessel with enough scalding water to cover it, closing the vessel tight. I allowed it to steep for an hour, the leaves and blossoms swelled to almost their original size as when in the green stage. This I fed liberally to my hens nearly every other day through the winter season. Between times, the flock was fed all refuse vegetables, all small potatoes of either variety, pumpkins while they lasted, cabbage leaves, pealings and cores of apples, beets, turnips, in fact anything that I happened to have on hand of a green or succulent nature.

On almost every farm there will be large quantities of picked-over vegetables, that would go to waste, which might otherwise be utilized to a good advantage if saved and fed to the laying hens in winter. In addition to the grain, and green food, milk is fed in any form when it is to be had, and we usually have some of one kind or the other to spare. I feed a hot mash of some kind in the morning, when the weather is very cold, and I supply my hens with lots of hot water when everything is frozen outside. I keep them as warm as possible at night by feeding them plenty of corn and by keeping them in a warm house. Last winter some of my hens kept laying all the while, and I am sure that it was the care given them in the form of good shelter, plenty of green food, warm water to drink, milk for the meal food, etc. At hog killing time everything of a greasy nature such as meat cracklings, etc., was fed daily while it lasted.

Good care of the hens will bring eggs in winter as well as in summer—M. E. S., in Farmers' Guide.

Perches.

If there is anything about the furniture of the poultry house that needs careful attention it is the perches or roosts. On these the hens spend over half their time and it is necessary that they be given considerable attention.

The instinct of self preservation prompts fowls to perch on the highest point possible when taking their quarters for the night. They naturally desire to be above danger from below. For this reason the perches in a house should all be on the same level and not one higher than another in the form of stairs, or there will be crowding and fighting for the highest positions. At some time the weaker hens will be pushed off these high perches, thus resulting in a cripple or death.

The perches should be low. There is no advantage in high roosts. Instead, there are several disadvantages. Fowls of heavy breeds are almost certain to injure their feet flying down from a high roost to a hard floor, and the disease known as bumble foot then results. For the sake of the superior ventillation perches should be low. The warmest air in the poultry house is near the roof, and the most impure air is there also. The lower air is purer, more plentiful and more enjoyable than that at the top of house. Eighteen inches above the floor is plenty high enough to place the roosts.

Perches should be built so that they do not touch the walls at any place. When they do so it is much easier for lice to thrive. The fewer creases and cracks wherein lice may find a lodging about the perches, the better.

The roost poles should be two or three inches wide. Two or three scantling, slightly rounded on the upper edges, will make desirable perches. Then place them so they will be movable in order that they may be taken out of the house and cleaned once in a while.

The Body Louse.

The body louse crawls rapidly around the body of the fowls, irritating the skin with its very rough, file-like claws and is consequently very annoying to the fowl, and very expensive to the poultryman, for the energy that the fowl expends in fighting lice uses up feed that should be used for growth, the accumulation of fat, and for egg production.

When a hen has access to a bed of road dust, fine dry loam, sand, or sifted coal ashes, she will rid herself of many body lice, but she cannot get rid of all of them without the aid of some destroying agent applied regularly at intervals of a few weeks.

These lice breathe through very small tubes or pores, and by covering these with oil or filling them with very fine powder, breathing is prevented and the lice are smothered. On account of the hen's long feathers. It is easier to dust with Dalmatian or Persian insect powder, tobacco, sulphur, or air-slacked lime, than to try to reach the louse with oil or grease.

THE DAIRY

Raising Fall Calves.

The first requisites in raising fall calves are clean, dry, well ventilated, sunny pens. Young calves never do well in damp, dirty quarters. A good floor made of cement, or cork brick, well bedded with short straw, shavings or sawdust to absorb the liquid manure will facilitate cleaning and keep the calves warm. A wood floor does fairly well if the joints are laid closely and then treated to a coat of creosote to prevent the absorption of liquid manure, otherwise wood is very unsatisfactory. A floor of earth is practically useless, as it cannot be kept clean and sanitary.

Good fresh air in the calf stable is of great importance with the young calf to give it a strong, vigorous constitution and strong vitality. The calf will be the dairy cow within two years, so if good productive dairy cows are expected the calf needs to be kept strong and thrifty from the start. Sunshine is very necessary to the vigor of all young growing animals. It is an excellent germicide and for that reason serves to purify the surroundings and to keep the young calf healthy. It is always well to place the calf pens in a part of the stable where plenty of direct sunshine may enter. The advantages of raising fall calves are that dairy products are much higher priced in the winter, the average farmer has more time to properly care for the cows, besides the average cow will maintain her milk flow longer by coming on to grass in the spring time. With the calves coming in the fall, they are ready to be weaned in the spring and can be put out to pasture where they will continue to grow. On the other hand, when calves are dropped in the spring they are ready to wean in the fall about the time winter sets in, so are liable to go through the winter without making very much growth. In the fall is by all means the best time for dairy calves to come, both from the standpoint of the calf and profits of the owner.

The Dark Stable.

There are a great many stables that ought to be reconstructed. They are dark and damp. The cows that live in them breathe a humid air, reeking with disease germs. The milk drawn in such an atmosphere is quickly tainted, for thousands of germs mingle with the streams of milk on their way from the udders of the cows to the milk pails. It is bad enough when these germs floating in the air are merely the ferments that make milk sour, but when they are also disease germs it is still worse.

The only way to protect the milk is to have a general tearing up, improving the drainage, increase the air space and let in the light. Light is cheap and it is a destroyer of germs. Give it a chance to do its work.

Amount of Feed.

The Nebraska station gives the following brief and simple rules as a guide in determining the amount of feed required by each cow:

First—Feed all the roughage, such as alfalfa, corn silage, etc., that the cow will eat up clean.

Second — Feed approximately one pound of grain for every three pounds of milk produced per day.

Third—Give the cows as much water as they will consume without gain in weight.

Fourth—Feed some succulent food such as corn silage or roots, to make the ration more palatable.

Fifth—Be prepared to supplement pastures by raising silage when the dry season sets in.

TRAPPING

Tanning Rawhide and Sheepskin.

There is no such thing as "tanning" rawhide. Rawhide is just the hide from which the hair has been removed. Nothing in the way of tanning has been done to it, or it would not be rawhide; of course, when dry it is very hard and stiff. When such a hide is to be used it is first soaked in water until soft it is then fastened in place and allowed to dry, when it becomes as hard as ever. A narrow strip or string of rawhide when dry may be made quite pliable by working it—that is, by pulling it over the edge of a board or round a square post or wagon tire, but should the string get wet it will be almost as hard as ever when it dries.

The so-called tanned rawhide made by some oil-tanning process that can be used at home; it will make a very soft leather, soft and very tough:

Remove the hair and all pieces of fat and flesh. Wash thoroughly in warm water. Warm, only slightly, enough tanner's oil—fish oil is the same thing—to cover the hide. Work the skin in the oil thoroughly to be sure that it is well soaked and that all of the air is out of it and that there are no bubbles under it. Weight the skin down in order to keep it under the oil. Set it in the sun or in a warm room. It will hasten the process to work the skin by pulling and stretching it every day or so. It is well to put in a little fresh oil now and then as the skin takes it up, just enough to keep the skin covered. It is then just a matter of time until the oil cuts and dissolves the glue that binds the hide. When that is done the hide is cured. The same thing applies to hides and to any process of tanning, when the glue is removed or broken up the hide becomes leather. In case of any but a very light skin, fish oil can will take quite a long time.

To make a porous leather somewhat like chamois out of sheepskin, the hide just as is done in making Indian tan buckskin, and tan with fish oil alone or the oil emulsion. Great care must be taken when graining the sheepskin not to cut it. The oil emulsion will make a white leather, which is a very good substitute for chamois. Try the bark tan on a sheepskin without graining it, and work in a little neat's-foot oil after the washing. If properly done this will make a very soft, dark-red leather and as tough as sheepskin ever is. The leather will absorb the oil if the skin is spread out, flesh side up, in the sun, the oil slightly warmed and rubbed in well.

To tell when a skin is entirely tanned by the oil or oil-emulsion process, wash it in warm soapsuds and when almost dry work it. If it becomes perfectly soft so that it will not harden it is tanned. If it is not soft put back in the oil until it is.—R. S. V., Country Gentleman.

Hints.

The first thing in trapping is to get the odor of the traps. This can be done by burying them in the ground or manure, boiling them in leaves or sprinkling them with lime. Traps set in water need no curing, as no animal can smell them anyway.

In water, set traps where there are signs of tracks of animals, or at the entrance to their dens. Five inches of water is not too deep to set the trap. Cover trap lightly, tie a piece of wire 30 inches long to chain, trap, and fasten to anything heavy and similar to surroundings. The animal when caught will dive for deep and the weight of trap will drown him and make him safe. The same method can be used for mink, muskrat, beaver, otter, etc.

In trapping the fox, wolf, etc., set the traps in trails where they are likely to go. Settle traps level with the ground and burn an armful of dry grass over them, as the animals are likely to dig into a camp fire. Take advantage of the animal you are trapping for and make tracks over trap, or set a trap baited with fresh meat so animal will go over trap to get it. Never touch anything with bare hands.

Place a flat stone 15 inches from shore, all under water except the pan covered with sod. Place bait, fish, cat or rabbit meat on stone over the pan. Be sure that bait can not be reached except by stepping on sod-covered pan. Stand in water while setting. Never go near traps when they are not sprung. Never take your dog with you when trapping. When the snow is deep, set traps in paper boxes. If traps freeze, put a handful of bait around them. Patent baits are unreliable.

Veterinary Course at Home

$1500 A ... and can be made by ... Veterinary course ... during spare time ... in simplest English ... plems explained. ... assisted in getting ... or positions. Co... guaranteed. Write for particulars. The London

ERUPTION LIKE RINGWORM ON FACE

Covered with Watery Blisters. Itched and Burned Terribly. Little Rest at Night. Cuticura Soap and Ointment Entirely Cured.

Lock Box 35, Maurice, Ia. — "In the spring of 1911 our little daughter, age five years, had a breaking out on her lip and part of her cheek that we took for ringworm. It resembled a large ringworm, only it differed in that it was covered with watery blisters that itched and burned terribly, made worse by her scratching it. Then the blisters would break through and let out a watery substance. She was very cross and fretful while she had it and had very little rest at night. When the eruption was at its worst the teacher of the school sent her home and would not allow her to attend until the disfigurement of her face was gone.

"We tried to kill it by applying ——— but without result. It would seem to get better and then broke out again. I then wrote and received a sample of Cuticura Soap and Ointment. We washed the sore with the Cuticura Soap and applied the Cuticura Ointment and they gave instant relief, so we bought some more. It gradually grew better. We kept on using Cuticura Soap and Ointment and in three or four months the child was entirely cured." (Signed) Mr. Henry Prins, Oct. 22, 1912.

Cuticura Soap 25c. and Cuticura Ointment 50c. are sold everywhere. Liberal sample of each mailed free, with 32-p. Skin Book. Address post-card "Cuticura, Dept. T, Boston."

Men who shave and shampoo with Cuticura Soap will find it best for skin and scalp.

NEED SOME POTATO EXPERTS

We Are Behind on Improved Potatoes in the U. S.

Washington, Dec. 12.—"Development of improved potato varieties in the United States has not kept up with the progress made in leading European countries," declares a bulletin just issued by the bureau of plant industry of the department of agriculture. In this country there is great room for breeding a potato with a greater starch content because American varieties are lower than the German potatoes by from four to eight per cent.

Read the Classified Opportunities column on last page—this issue.

SMASH THE HOUSE RULE FOR HOBSON

Galleries Cheer and Stamp Feet When Liquor Traffic Is Condemned.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Shattering the rules of the house of representatives champions of prohibition who packed the galleries late yesterday broke into repeated outbursts of applause and actually shouted from their seats as Representative Richmond Pearson Hobson, of Alabama, pleaded for a resolution which would submit a constitutional prohibition amendment to the states.

The extraordinary demonstration continued unrestrained for many minutes as Mr. Hobson proceeded dramaically with the prohibition question and was not checked until the speaker had drawn into the controversy Hobson's colleague, Representative Underwood, who is now engaged with him in a race for the senate.

The injection of personal politics into the house brought the majority leader to his feet with a reply to Mr. Hobson, and this precipitated applause from the members on the floor. Republican Leader Mann at this point demanded that the rules of the house be observed, and Representative Moon of Tennessee, who was in the chair, admonished the spectators.

Quiet was restored temporarily after a voice from the gallery shouted: "We're American citizens."

In the course of his speech Mr. Hobson said:

"We ought to have our party understand now while the war is on, that it never was intended for an alliance with the liquor interests. Yet there is a great Democrat and a great Alabama, who is present today, who recently announced—at least that is the way I read it in the reports—that if prohibition continues to be injected into Democratic politics either prohibition would be ground to the dust or the Democratic party must die. I take second place to no man who loves his party, and let me tell you that if the Democratic party can only live by joining with the liquor interests to debauch the American people then in God's name let it die."

MUST LEAVE TAMPICO

Hundreds of Americans Board U. S. Warships.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Rear Admiral Fletcher cabled from Tampico under date of 1 a. m. today that at 4 p. m. yesterday he had ordered all Americans out of the city and that before midnight he had transferred about 500 who were aboard the Wheeling and Tacoma to the battleships Virginia, Rhode Island and New Jersey outside.

The admiral reported that all foreign women and children were out of the city at 1o'clock this morning, but that some men preferred to remain. He also stated that the situation was "getting worse," and that skirmishing continued, with the Mexican gunboat Bravo shelling the position of the constitutionalists.

Admiral Fletcher asked the navy department to make public announcement that all foreigners were safe and that it was impossible to send personal messages to all who have relatives on the ships. The navy department has engaged the Ward liner Morro Castle, which will arrive at Tampico early tomorrow to receive such refugees as may wish to leave.

The navy department later issued this statement:

"A cablegram has been received from Rear Admiral Fletcher, sent from Tampico, Mexico, 2 p. m., Friday, which conveys the information that there has been no cessation of fighting, but that the fighting is not serious.

"Aguilar was reported to have just arrived with 3,000 men and taken a position on the right bank of the river. That there were en route to Tampico the Mexican gunboats Vera Cruz and Progresso."

Admiral Fletcher has received information that both federals and constitutionalists have shot or hanged all prisoners taken, numbering abou 65. Three of these men were hanged in the forenoon from within the federal lines in full view of the shipping and city. Admiral Fletcher made formal protest in the name of humanity against the practice. He reports that no foreigners or propery have been injured and that the New Jersey is en route to Tampico.

DRIED EGGS TO CUT COST

Frozen and Dried Product May Solve That Problem.

Washington, Sept. 11.—Dr. Mary E. Pennington, in charge of food research work of the department of agriculture, told the house agriculture committee today that frozen and dried eggs would solve the problem of high prices and cold storage corners.

"Frozen and dried eggs," said Dr. Pennington, "soon will be marketed in small packages so as to be available to every house hold instead of for bakers and other manufacturers, as at present. Hard frozen eggs will keep a year."

ARE FEWER MEDICAL COLLEGES

Standards Are Higher and Number Is Decreased.

Washington, Dec. 13.—A gradual, but steady decrease in the number of medical schools in the United States is indicated in a report compiled by the Federal Bureau of Education. There also was in 1912 a considerable decrease in both the number of students attending these schools and the number of graduates.

The figures show that there were 14 fewer schools, 1,200 fewer students and a decrease of 500 in the number of graduates in 1913 as compared with 1912. Although the number of students has decreased, the number of women studying medicine showed an increase last year. Of the 18,451 students in 1912, 712 were women, while in 1913 there were 835 women among 17,238 students. Only 70 women graduated this year as compared with 142 in 1912.

Reduction in the number of medical schools is part of a general movement inauguratedd some years ago for the improvement of these institutions. Entrance requirements and courses of study have been materially raised in practically all of the states.

WOOD TO RETIRE AS CHIEF

Washington, Dec. 12.—Announcement was made yesterday by Secretary Garrison that on April 22 next, Major General Leonard Wood would cease to be chief of staff of the United States army.

On that date General Wood's four-year detail expires, and though there is a provision in the statutes which would permit the term to be extended in case of war or any other emergency, Secretary Garrison declared that he would follow the spirit of the law and choose a successor.

SILK VELOUR HATS

Rich glossy finish, stitched, soft, flexible brim; silk band. The Young Man's hat. Everybody is wearing them. Your size in black, blue, brown, gray or green by mail postpaid $1.50. You are sure to like it. Your money back if you want it.

THOMAS BROTHERS, Ripley, West Virginia

AGENTS: $40 A WEEK

Startling new hosiery proposition—unheard of. Hosiery for men, women and children. *Guaranteed for one year.* Must wear 12 months or replaced free. Agents having wonderful success. H. W. Price sold 60 boxes in 12 hours. Mrs. Fields 109 pairs on one street. G. W. Noble made $35 in one day. Sworn proof. Sold only through agents.

Not for sale in stores. A hosiery proposition that beats them all. Big money sure. A chance of a lifetime. Write quick for terms and samples. THOMAS HOSIERY COMPANY 6078 West St. Dayton, Ohio

Get a New Head Dress FOR XMAS

SENT ON APPROVAL Or You Can Earn FREE Either of These Beautiful Heavy Human Hair SWITCHES

They are 22 and 24 inches long, heavy, soft and fluffy, and come in either straight or wavy hair—hold their shape beautifully and feel and look just like your own hair.

We Guarantee these switches not to fade or lose their wave for two years or we will replace with new switch on its return and small exchange price.

Special 22 in. Switch $1.50, 24 in. Switch $2.00. Odd and gray shades 20% higher. Send long samples of hair with order. Goods sent prepaid on approval.

One Free If you are satisfied with yours, sell 3 of equal value to your friends, remit for 2 with long samples of hair, and keep price of one. Catalog of fashionable HAIR DRESSING included for 5 cents in stamps.

MARGUERITE COLLY, Dept. 494 500 So. Peoria Street, CHICAGO

New Railroad President Student and Lawyer

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 13.—Fairfax Harrison, the new president of the Southern Railroad, is a college man and a lawyer who has risen to the top in transportation affairs by keen application and study. Mr. Harrison hopes to put the road on a better paying basis and has suggested various improvements to the board of directors.

Mr. Harrison is a Virginian, his home being at Belvoir, Va. His father was private secretary to Jefferson Davis while president of the Confederate states, and all his railroad experience has been with the Southern and its associate lines. Mr. Harrison was born in 1869 and was graduated from Yale with the A. B. degree in 1890 and from Columbia with the A. M. degree in 1891. He was admitted to the bar in New York in 1892.

CORN CHAMPIONS ON CAPITAL TRIP

Boys and Girls From Thirty States Sightseeing in Washington.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Champion boy and girl farmers from 30 states arrived here today and for a week will be guests of the Department of Agriculture. There were 80 in the party and each has a record for achievements in raising either corn or potatoes or for having the best and most profitable vegetable garden.

The boys and girls will spend the week in sight-seeing in and about the capital. For several years the department has awarded trips to Washington to champions of boys' corn clubs. There are nearly as many girls as boys in the party that arrived today.

While the boys and girls are sightseeing the leaders of the boys' and girls' club movement will hold their annual conference to discuss the extension of the work. Marketing canned goods, co-operative buying and selling, use of labels for standardizing club products, are on the program.

Among the champions are Hattie Holbrook and Merle Hyer, of Utah, and Lucy Bale, of New Jersey. They are the acknowledged leaders among the boy and girl champions of the country.

HOUSTON NOT TO BLAME FOR CORN BOYS' ABSENCE

Washington, Dec. 11.—It now develops that the visit of the Ohio corn boys to Secretary of Agriculture Houston was called off at the request of T. P. Riddle, director of the trip, and wasn't a snub on the part of Secretary Houston at all. The visit was abandoned by the boys because they were footsore and suffered for lack of sleep.

The controversy with the department and the accompanying charges of snubbing were participated by "Put" Sandles, of the Ohio agriculture department.

Secretary Houston has defended himself in a letter to Congrsesman Ansberry, also in conversation yesterday with Congressman Allen, of Cincinnati.

The matter is cleared up also by a letter written by Riddle to Houston in which the latter is thanked for his courtesy to the corn boys. This letter discounts a protest that was planned in the house.

IS NOT YET EFFECTIVE

New Parcel Post Rule Doesn't Help Santa.

The new ruling increasing weight limits of parcel post packages will not help Santa Claus this year. It will not become effective until January 1, postal authorities announce.

Under the present limitations, parcels weighing up to 11 pounds can be mailed to any zone, and parcels not exceeding 20 pounds can be mailed to points within the first and second zones surrounding Toledo. After January 1, the weight limits will be 50 pounds inside the first two zones and 20 pounds for parcels addressed to points beyond them.

MONA LISA IS FOUND

Florence, Italy, Dec. 12.—Leonardo di Vinci's masterpiece, Mona Lisa, the mysterious disappearance of which from the Louvre in August, 1911, threw the art world into consternation, was found today in Florence. The man who stole it was arrested. He is an Italian.

REPORT SEWAGE DUMPED IN LAKES

Commissioners Complete Exhaustive Investigation of Water Boundaries

Washington, Dec. 11.—One of the most important sanitary investigations ever undertaken in America has practically been concluded by the international joint commission, and in a few months legislation probably will be recommended to congress and to the Canadian parliament looking to the prevention of water pollution along 2,000 miles of the northern international boundary.

Covers Whole Territory.

The investigation was begun last spring and has covered the territory between the head of Lake Superior and where the St. Lawrence river ceases to become the boundary line. It has taken in hundreds of square miles in the Great Lakes and the streams which connect them and has gone over into the country drained into the St. Lawrence by the St. John river in Maine, Duluth, Sault Ste. Marie, Detroit, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Rochester in the United, and many cities and towns in Canada are concerned in the investigation and legislation which may result. According to the estimates, between 6,000,000 and 7,000,000 people are interested in the prevention of water pollution in this area.

While the inquiry has been directed toward the discovery of sewage and has not looked to the typhoid baccillus, it is regarded as most important, since it is not an unwarranted presumption that in sewage polluted water germs of typhoid and other diseases will be found.

The commission's findings will not be made public for several weeks. It is understood here that they will disclose conditions along most of the 2,000-mile stretch that should be remedied to better health conditions.

Will Clean House.

It is probable that the report will lead to the employment of the best sanitary engineers and experts on water pollution in the United States, Canada and possibly Europe to clean house along the Great Lakes and the border. The problem of prevention is so big that American members of the commission confess the best experts in the world should tackle it.

Dr. Allen J. McLaughlin, of the public health service, with two assistants used tugboats and the revenue cutter Morrill. Laboratories were set up and the tabulation of the data was kept up with the field investigation.

Dr. McLaughlin took up an inquiry into the pollution caused by vessels on the Great Lakes. Estimates showed that about 15,000,000 persons annually sail the lakes and its tributary rivers and one of the most difficult problems will be how to prevent pollution from this source.

WAS THROWN OUT OF PRISON

Negro Refused to Leave When His Term Expired.

Columbus, Dec. 13.—John Davis, colored, became so attached to the Ohio penitentiary while serving a term for robbery that when his sentence expired this morning he flatly refused to leave the institution, saying that he was going to stay until the weather warmed up a bit.

The man was told that he would have to leave, but the officials had to almost throw him out.

"This place is as good as any home on the outside," he said as he left. Davis was received at the prison May 9, 1912, to serve two years from Hamilton county.

LOOK TO FORESTS FOR MEAT SUPPLY

Washington, Dec. 12.—Hope for the future meat supply for the country is held out in the annual report of Henry S. Graves, chief of the United States forestry service, made public today. Mr. Graves declares that the national forests under his supervision furnish abundont forage supplies, opportunity for the adoption of the best methods and freedom from live-stock diseases.

The forage resources of the national forests, the report continues, contribute to the maintenance of more than 20,000,000 head of live stock. The receipts from grazing, while second to those from timbering, last year were more than $1,000,000, and showed an increase over the previous year. Over four per cent more stock was grazed because of increased forage facilities.

Mr. Graves says that the forest service last year sold more than two billion board feet of lumber, valued at $4,500,000 on the stump. This, he says, is an increase of 167 per cent over the previous year. The actual cut was a little under 500,000,000 board feet, an increase of 15 per cent.

The total revenue of the service, according to the report, was slightly less than $2,500,000 which, however, was an increase of 14 per cent over 1912. The total expenditure for administration and forest protection was a little more than $4,600,000, showing a decrease of 2 per cent. A large number of the national forests, Mr. Graves says, already more than pay expenses. This is true of the Alaskan forests and those in the southwest.

The development of water power is increasing rapidly, especially in California. The minimum output from the permits now in force, the report states, is nearly 800,000 horsepower.

The MELTING OF MOLLY

CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE

for two months and I woke up in a cold prespiration of embarrassment and raging hunger.

I don't know what I'm going to do about this book and I've got myself into trouble about writing things besides records in it. He looked at me this morning as coolly as if I was just anybody and said:

"I would like to see that record now, Mrs. Molly. It seems to me you are about as slim as you want to be. How did you tip the scales last time you weighed, and have you noticed any trouble at all with your heart?"

"I weigh one hundred and thirty-four pounds and I've got to melt and freeze and starve off that four," I answered, ignoring the heart question and also the question of producing this book. Wonder what he would do if I gave it to him to read just as it is?

"How about the heart?" he persisted, and I may have imagined the smile in his eyes for his mouth was purely professional. Anyway, I lowered my lashes down on to my cheeks and answered experimentally:

"Sometimes it hurts." Then a cyclone happened to me.

"Come here to me a minute!" he said quickly and he turned me around and put his head down between my shoulders and held me so tight against his ear that I could hardly breathe.

"Expand your chest three times and breathe as deep as you can," he ordered from against my back buttons. I expanded and breathed—pretty quickly at that.

"Now hold your breath as long as you can," he commanded, and it fitted by mood exactly to do so.

"Can't find anything," he said at last, letting me go and looking carefully at my face. His eyes were all anxiety; and I liked it. "When does it hurt you and how?" he asked anxiously.

"Moonlight nights and lonesomely," I answered before I could stop myself, and what happened then was worse than any cyclone. He got white for a minute and just looked at me as if I was a bug stuck on a pin, then gave a short little laugh and turned to the table.

"I didn't understand you were joking," he said quietly.

That maddened me and I would have done anything to make him think I was not the foolish thing he evidently had classified me as being. I snatched at my mind and shook out a mixture of truth and lies that fooled even myself and gave them to him, looking straight in his face. I would have cracked all the ten commandments to save myself from his contempt.

"I'm not joking," I said jerkily: I am lonesome. And worse than being lonesome, I'm scared. I ought to have stayed just the quiet relict of Mr. Carter and gone on to church meetings with Aunt Adeline and let myself be fat and respectable; but I haven't got the character. You though I went to town to buy a monument, and I didn't; I bought enough clothes for two brides and now I'm scared to wear 'em, and I don't know what you'll think when you see my bankbook. Everybody is talking about me and that dinner-party Tuesday night, and Aunt Adeline says she can't live in a house of mourning so desecrated any longer; she's going back to the cottage. Aunt Bettie Pollard says that if I want to get married I ought to do it to Mr. Wilson Graves because of the seven children and then everybody would be so relieved that they are taken care of that they would forget that Mr. Carter hasn't been dead quite one year yet. Mrs. Johnson says I ought to be declared a minor and put as a ward to you. I can't help Judge Wade's sending me flowers and Tom's sitting on my front steps night and day. I'm not strong enough to carry him away and murder him. I am perfectly miserable and I'm—"

"Now that'll do, Molly, just hush for a half-minute and let me talk to you," said Doctor John as he took my hand in his and drew me near him. "No wonder your heart hurts if it has got all that load of trouble on it and we'll just get a little of the 'scare' off. You just put yourself in my hands and you are to do just as I tell you, and I say—forget it! Come with me while I make a call. It is a long drive and I'm—I'm lonesome sometimes myself."

I saw the worst was over and I breathed freely again, but I had talked so much truth in that fiction that I felt just as I said I did, which is a slightly unnatural feeling for a woman. There was nothing for it but to go with him, and I wanted to most awfully.

To my dying day I'll never forget that little house, way out on the Cane Run pike, he took me to in his shabby little car. Just two tiny rooms, but they were clean and quiet and a girl with the sweetest face I ever saw lay in bed with her eyes bright with pride, and a tiny, tiny little bundle beside her. The young farmer was red with embarrassment and anxiety.

"She's all right today, but I think she worries because she don't think I can tend to the baby right," he said; and he did look helpless. "Her mother had to go home for two days, but is coming tomorrow. I dasn't undress and wash the youngster myself. It won't hurt him to stay bundled up until granny comes, will it, Doc?"

"Not a bit," answered Doctor John in his big comforting voice.

But I looked at the girl and I understood her. She wanted that baby clean and fresh even if it was only five days old, and I felt all of a sudden terribly capable. I picked up the bundle and went into the other room with it where a kettle was boiling on the stove and a large bucket by the door. I found things by just a glance from her, and the hour I spent with that small baby was one of the most delicious of all my life. I never was left entirely to myself with one before and I did all I wanted to this one, guided by instinct and desire. He slept right through and was the darlingest thing I ever saw when I laid him back on the bed by her. I never looked in Doctor John's direction once, though I felt him all the time.

But on the way home I gave myself the surprise of my life! Suddenly I turned my face against his sleeve and cried as I never had before. I felt safe for it is a cliff road and he had to drive carefully. However, he managed to press that one arm against my face in a way that comforted me into stopping when I saw we were near town. I got out of the car at the garage and walked away through the garden home without looking in his direction at all. I never seem to be able to look at him as I do at other people. We hadn't spoken two words since we left the little house in the woods with that happy-faced girl in it. He has more sense than just a man.

It was almost dusk and I stopped in the garden a minute to pull the dirt closer around some of the bachelor's-buttons that had "popped" the ground some weeks ago. Thinking about them made me regain my spirits and I went on in the house to be scolded for whatever Aunt Adeline had thought up while I was gone to do it to me about. Judy told me with her broadest grin that she had gone down to her sister-in-law's for supper and I sat down on the steps with a sigh of relief.

Some days are like tin cocoanut graters that everybody uses to grate you against and this was one for me. For an hour I sat and grated my own self against Alfred's letter that had come in the morning. I realized that I would just have to come to some sort of a decision about what I was going to do, for he wrote that he was to sail in a day or two and ships do travel so fast these days.

I love him and always have, of that I am sure. He offers me the most wonderful life in the world and no woman could help being proud to accept it. I am lonely, more lonely than I was even willing to confess to Doctor John. I can't go on living this way any longer. Ruth Chester has made me see that if I want Alfred it will be now or never and—quick. I know now that she loves him, and she ought to have her show if I don't want him. The way she idolizes and idealizes him is a marvel of womanly stupidity.

Some women like to collect men's hearts and hide them away from other women on cold storage and the helpless things can't help themselves.

I have contempt for that sort of butcher, and I love Ruth!

It's my duty to look the matter in the face before I look in Alfred's—and decide. If not Alfred, what then?

First—no husband. That's out of the question! I'm not strong-minded enough to crank my own motor-car and study woman's suffrage. I prefer to suffer at the hands of some cruel man and trust to beguiling him into doing just as I say. I like men, can't help it, and want one for my own. I don't count poor Mr. Carter.

Second—if not Alfred, who? Judge Wade is so delightful that I flutter at the thought, but his mother is Aunt Adeline's own best friend and they have ideas in common. She is so religious that living with her would be like having the sacrament for daily bread. Still, living with him might have adventures. I never saw such eyes! The girl he wanted to marry died of tuberculosis and he wears a locket with her in it yet. I'd like to reward him for such faithfulness with a nice husky wife to wear instead of the locket. But then Alfred's been faithful too! I look at Ruth Chester and realize how faithful, and my heart melts to him in my breast—my hips have almost all melted away, too, so I had better keep the heart cold enough to handle if I want anything left at all for him to come home to.

In some ways Tom Pollard is the most congenial man I ever knew. You have to say "don't" to him all the time, but what woman doesn't like a little impertinence once in a while? I flavor all Tom's dare-devil kisses with kinship when I feed them to my conscience, and I truly try to make him be serious about the important things in life like going to church with his mother and working all day, even if he is rich. I wish he wasn't so near kin to me! Now, there, I feel in Ruth Chester's way again! One of the things that keeps the devil so busy is taking helpless widows to the heights of knowledge and showing them kingdoms of men that girls never dream even exist. If all women could have been born with widow-eyes, things would run much more smoothly along the marriage and giving-in-marriage line. And the poor men are most of them as ignorant as girls about what to do.

I suppose I really would be doing a righteous thing to marry Mr. Graves, and I would adore all those children to start with, but I know Billy wouldn't get on with them at all. I can't even consider it on his account, but I'll let the nice old chap come on for a few times more to see me, for he really is interesting and we have suffered things in common. Mrs. Graves lacked the kind of temperament poor Mr. Carter did. I'd like to make it all up to him, but if Billy wouldn't be happy, that settles it, and I don't know how good his boys are. I couldn't have Billy corrupted.

And so, as there is nobody else exactly suitable in town, it all simmers down to one or the other of these or Alfred. In my heart I knew that I couldn't hesitate a minute—and in the flash of a second I decided. Of course I love Alfred and I'll take him gladly and be the wife he has waited for all these six lonely years. I'll make everything up to him if I have to diet to keep thin for him the rest of my life. I likely will have that very thing to do and I get weak at the idea. Before I burn this book I'll have to copy it all out and be chained to it for life. At the thought my heart dropped like a sinker to my toes; but I hauled it up to its normal place with picturing to myself how Alfred would look when he saw me in that old blue muslin done over into a Rene wonder. However, old heart would show a strange propensity for sinking down into my slippers without any reason at all. Tears were even coming into my eyes when Tom suddenly came over the fence and picked me and the heart up together and put us into an adventure of the first water.

"Molly," he said in the most nonchalant manner imaginable, "we've got a dandy, strolling, gipsy band up at the hotel; the dining-room floor is all waxed and I'm asking for the first dance with the young and radiant Mrs. Carter. Get into a glad rag and don't keep me waiting."

"Oh, be a sport, Moll, and don't take water! You said you would wake up this town, and now do it. It seems twenty instead of six years since I had my arms around you to music and I'm not going to wait any longer. Everybody is there and they can't all dance with Miss Chester."

That settled it—I couldn't let a visiting girl be danced to death. Of course I had planned to make a dignified debut under my own roof, backed up by the presence of ancestral and marital rosewood, silver and mahogany, as a widow should, but duty called me to de-weed myself amidst the informality of an impromptu dance at the little town hotel. And in the fifteen minutes Tom gave me I de-weeded to some purpose and flowered out to still more. I never do anything by halves.

In that—that—trousseau old Rene had made me there was one, what she called "simple" lingerie frock. And it looked just as simple as the check it called for, one and two ciphers back of it. It was of linen as sheer as a cobweb, real lace and tiny delicious incrustations of embroidery. It fitted in lines that melted into curves, had enticements in the shape of a long sash and a dangerous breastknot of shimmery blue, the color of my eyes, and I looked new-born in it.

To Be Continued.

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6457—Rag Doll.

Most children give to their rag dolls a far greater love than they bestow upon their Parisian beauties. All should have one. This pattern gives the body and a one-piece dress and bloomers. The hair and face must be stitched or painted in. The pattern 6457 is cut in sizes 16, 20 and 24 inches long. To make the set for a 20-inch doll it will require ⅝ yds. of 36 inch material for the doll, ¼ yard of 36 inch material and 1 yard of ribbon for the dress and bloomers.

6459—Ladies' Negligee.

This negligee will make a very pretty Christmas gift. It is cut in two pieces. The kimono shoulder is straight front and back sections and the low neck are all in the latest style. Cantion crepe, Japanese silk or cotton crepe can be used to make the kimono. The pattern, 6459, is cut in sizes 34, 38 and 42 inches bust measure. Medium size requires 5¼ yards of 36-inch material and 6¼ yards of ribbon.

5967.—Ladies' Dress.

This model offers one of the one-piece dresses that are so universally worn. It has the Gibson tuck at the shoulders in front, with the closing at one side. The skirt has four gores with a pleated section at the lower edge of the seam. The style is good for serge, cheviot, challie, cashmere and wash fabrics. The pattern is cut in sizes 32 to 42 inches bust measure. Medium size requires 4¾ yards of 44-inch material.

6339.—Girls' Dress.

A very smart design with waist and skirt. The blouse opens in front, has a drop shoulder and a fancy collar. The two-piece skirt is plain and scant. Poplin, moire, serge, cheviot and similar materials are suitable for this dress. The pattern is cut in sizes 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. Medium size requires 2 yards of 44-inch material.

6437—Ladies' Shirt Waist.

One of the new models showing a deep yoke with drop shoulder, the material gathered below and with a surplice closing and full sleeve. Suitable for crepe and silk and also for light weight woolen goods. The pattern is cut in sizes 34 to 42 inches bust measure. Medium size requires 2¾ yards of 36-inch material.

6452.—Child's Night Drawers.

An excellent night garment for winter wear, made with or without feet and closed in the back. Suitable for outing flannel, sateen madras or muslin. The pattern is cut in sizes 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. 8 years requires 2¾ yards of 36-inch material.

5850.—Ladies' Apron.

This apron will be just the thing for Christmas gift if made of muslin and trimmed with insertion and edging. It has the front in one piece only, and is fitted at the back and fastened by straps across the shoulders. The pattern, 5850, is cut in one size and requires 1¼ yards of 36-inch material, 2 yards of edging and 1 yard of insertion.

5954.—Ladies' Two-Piece Skirt.

Closing at the left side of the front this skirt shows a pretty drapery suggestion at each of the two seams. Ornamental buttons hold the drapery in position and may contrast in color with the goods. Soft plaid fabrics, figured materials and some of the thinner novelties will make up nicely in this style. The pattern is cut in sizes 22 to 30 inches waist measure. Medium size requires 2¾ yards of 44-inch material.

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1913.

Largest and Best Weekly Published and Largest Circulation.

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THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover each week all news topics of real interest to all wide-awake and thinking men. Its editorial page is one of the strongest and most thoughtful in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is especially prepared for the American home.

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The Weekly Blade has over a million readers a week.

Every woman with a secret can find a willing ear to pour it into.

Some men seem to think the world owes them beer and whisky.

A woman's way of improving a name is to write "Mrs." before it.

Carranza, the Mexican rebel chief, looks more like Santa Claus than a soldier.

An Illinois man argues that the earth is hollow, but he hasn't become violent yet.

It would be more or less interesting to know who darns the stockings in the Pankhurst family.

Now that President Wilson wears a monocle, recognition of Huerta seems more improbable than ever.

You can never raise the batting average of the joy of living by appointing yourself a committee of one to go out and meet trouble half way.

The hardship of high prices would not be so great if a person of limited means could buy half an egg.

President Wilson is a brave man. He faced the woman suffragists and told them what he wouldn't do.

Our notion of the irony of fate, or something like that, would be for the non-laying egg plant to cackle.

By the time a man ceases to regret having done a foolish thing he is about ready to repeat the performance.

Probably the germ, like the worm, turns now and then, but it is so infinitesimal that it escapes notice.

"All my life I have been trying to follow my conscience," says Mr. Bryan. And see how bald he is now.

Anna Held says most American women are too fat and too coarse. Another case of woman's inhumanity to woman.

Sometimes we think it would be much better if Opportunity, when she comes around, would blow a horn like the rag man.

A whale may live a thousand years, which goes to show that its digestion has improved since Jonah made his famous return trip.

Of the one hundred and eighty-nine hunters killed this fall, probably not one of them could have been persuaded to risk his life in an aeroplane.

A Vassar girl received a marriage proposal by mail and answered it by telegraph. Electricity may have seemed slow to her, but she did the best she could.

Even if the government does take control of the telephone the line may be busy when some woman wants a spool of darning cotion delivered right away or sooner.

Phoebe Couzins lived a long and active life, during which she had the courage to change her mind on some important subjects. Dull persons are rarely charged with being inconsistent.

The man who can get up in the morning, without fear and trembling, and dispose of nine buckwheat cakes and a liberal link of sausage in justified in proclaiming, "The world is mine!"

If the constitution is in the way, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt is in favor of tearing it up. The constitution has been in the way of many things; that seems to be what it was intended for, to get in the way.

Some day parcel post may bring the hen in from the farm and take her back home after she has laid a dozen eggs in the consumer's basket. The subject of this dream is: "The Elimination of the Middleman."

Dr. Hugonecq says human flesh is the best food for man, and he may be right. It seems foolish to question the statement of an eminent authority, but try ever so hard, we can't think of a neighbor whom we want to eat.

The esteemed Boston Globe, wishing to prepare its readers for the worst, calls attention to the fact that in 1914 three Fridays will come on the 13th of the month and two on the 23rd. Mondays, we presume, will remain about as usual.

Lillian Russell says: "God feathered the female birds in quiet, unattractive plumage that they might escape the notice of huntsmen." This explains a great deal. The women now array themselves in gorgeous plumage to attract the huntsmen.

Parents of a 4-year-old Iowa boy had been missing things for some time. Finally they called in a surgeon, who took from the little fellow fourteen carpet tacks, three cartridges, three rivets, one nail, a ball of paper, a piece of chalk, sixteen inches of twine and a small iron bar.

MARKETING.

Solution of the problem of distributing farm products—in order that the farmer shall obtain a fairer share of the selling price and the burden of living be lifted a little from the consumer's shoulders—cannot be settled by such simple methods as eliminating commission dealers and instituting food boycotts.

The report of the secretary of agriculture outlines a project for a thorough investigation of the problem. This would consist of the study of variations in the supply of farm products, inquiry into cold storage systems, comparison of marketing schemes, search for wastes in transportation, finding wherein producers are at fault, commission agents resort to manipulation and consumers are extravagant and stupid in their buying. This is a task for many men. It will strain the energies of the agricultural department and, in the end, may call for alterations in the practice of farmers, shippers and housewives which will take years to bring about.

"No one can say off-hand just what part of the burden is due to lack of systematic planning or inefficiency, economic waste, or to unfair manipulation," says Secretary Houston. The investigation will probably make this fact clear—that all of us are in some way responsible for the fact that there is such a problem, the farmer and the consumer as well as the carrier, the cold-storage man, the wholesaler and the proprietor of the little grocery store around the corner.

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PRESIDENT.

If it should prove that a falling off in the activities of business and industry is anything more than seasonal or temporary, the blame for it—whether fair or not—will be laid upon the doorstoop of the Democratic administration.

The history of the Democratic party is associated with the words depression and unemployment and soup-kitchen. No one knows better than the commander-in-chief of the party that it would require only a few months of benumbed industry and palsy-stricken confidence to revive this unpleasant part of the history of Democracy and convince the people of the country that commercial coma goes inevitably with Democratic rule. Right or wrong, the people would say that—and the effect on the party would be just the same whether the popular judgment was correct, or a million miles off the track.

In the situation, President Wilson is not helpless. There is one thing he can do which ought both to hearten business and to protect his party. It might take some such form as this: Calling together representatives of industry and commerce—bankers, manufacturers, capitalists, carriers and merchants—saying to them that the administration has no intention of persecuting business, instructing them to go to the attorney general for directions upon what they may do and what they must not do, assuring them that congress will be persuaded to forego or postpone nagging legislation and as a final word and warning, declaring that violations of the laws of commerce and trade will henceforth be tried under criminal charges.

The matter of industrial depression would be put directly up to business. It would give business no opportunity to cancel its enterprises and then cry that the administration was to blame for it. It would, at the same time, provide business with that which it has repeatedly said it desires to have above everything—definite knowledge of the limits of its powers under the law. If the present quieting of industry contains any noxious drug which will lead to industrial stagnation and want, an expression of good intentions on the part of the President, mixed with a little wholesome sermonizing, might counteract the poison.

THRIFTY AMERICANS.

According to the report which the comptroller of the currency has just made to congress, more than one-third of all the money on deposit in the banks of the United States represents savings accounts. About one-fifth of all the people in the country have money in savings banks and the average per depositor amounts to $439.07. Between June, 1912, and June, 1913, the savings deposits increased 7 per cent.

Because of the spectacular display of wealth, to be observed in quite restricted sections of the big cities, some of our patriotic people have been greatly troubled lest, through luxury and prodigality, the fate of reckless Rome should overtake us. As long as the comptroller of the currency can hold out to show an increase in thriftiness, we need not greatly worry ourselves with that prospect.

THE POISONED NEEDLE.

The poisoned needle story seems to have fired the imagination of reporters and police officers very much as the kissing bug story excited the country some fifteen or twenty years ago.

A woman in a New Jersey city feels certain that she has been drugged by means of a needle, coated with some mysterious alkaloid, which was driven into her wrist while she sat in a moving picture show. Forthwith, people in far-scattered communities announce that they have had a similar experience or know of other people who have. There are conjectures about "organized gangs" which are making use of medical science to work unspeakable evils. All other suggestions as to the reason for the disappearance of certain young women having been exhausted, the needle story is seized upon as the one and only plausible explanation. It has come as a relief to wearied guessers.

There may be something in this Jersey news. But it has a look strangely like the dispatches about that kissing bug, which, coming out of nowhere and causing fair lips all over the land to resemble prize fighters just coming from the ring, returned whence it came, lost to human sight and soon forgotten. Before the needle story is taken in all seriousness it might be well to see whether it did not have its origin in pure fancy or hysteria.

THE TENACIOUS MUSKRAT.

When it comes to adaptiveness, the crow and the barnyard owl and the field mouse have little the advantage of the muskrat. The crow is tolerated because the person who shoots him hasn't anything worth while after he has brought down his bird. The barn owl is particularly good at hiding and does his prowling after dusk. Field mice have assumed that the entire corn crop is raised for their benefit and have reproduced at such a rate that no human agency has so far been able to bring their numbers within reason.

But there is no undesirableness about the muskrat to serve as his protection from man. His pelt is highly useful as a pose for mink fur and, in these parts at least, his flesh is in good standing. The muskrat probably doesn't hide any more than his fathers before the coming of the white man hid. Nor has life become so easy for his kind that it can afford to bring uncountable young into the world. Nevertheless, the muskrat has managed to hold on. His houses may still be seen in the marshes, a dozen or so of them, and within the last year or two he has builded inside the city limits of Toledo itself.

Given half a show, the muskrat would probably do better than merely hold his own. He has shown himself tenacious and adaptive.

RAISE OHIOANS FOR OHIO.

Ohio has been the mother state of full half the far west. Her sons have broken the trails, plowed the lands, opened the mines, builded the cities, fought the good fight from the Gulf to the Saskatchewan, from the Mississippi to where the Oregon rolls.

The state can be proud of her wandering children. But the mere fact that they have gone away, thousands upon thousands of them, represents a tremendous loss in worthy citizenship. It represents a loss in the spirit of enterprise and adventure, a loss in imaginative quality, without which no advancement is ever made and no ideals made realities.

It does not speak for the good sense and foresight of Ohio that while the state has always been eager for new citizens and has always held out the hand of welcome to newcomers, nothing has ever been done to keep the native born at home. No organized effort has ever been made to persuade the restless to look about them a little before they deserted the soil upon which they were brought into being. Until recently it has never occurred to anyone to present the offerings of Ohio solely for the eyes and education of Ohioans who might be attracted by offerings elsewhere.

Mr. Irving E. Macomber's idea for a movement to keep Ohioans in Ohio deserves the support of far more people than those in the realty business to whom the idea is suggested. The whole state ought to lend a hand. It would be far better for Ohio to retain 20,000 a year—said to be the annual loss by emigration—than to gain 100,000 from elsewhere.

THE RAILROADS RECITE FIGURES.

The forty-nine east-of-the-Mississippi Railroads which are asking the Interstate Commerce Commisison for permission to make a 5 per cent increase in freight rates have issued a sort of statistical appeal to the country.

They show that in 1903 they were operating 56,706 miles of track, leaving out double-trackage and sidings. In the decade following, 3,619 miles of track were laid, or about a mile per day. In 1909, only 52 miles were laid and in the year following, 199. While the percentage of 1912 over 1903 was 6½, that of 1912 over 1910 was less than 1½.

In these same ten years the population of the territory served by the forty-nine railroads increased by more than 6,000,000. The population of 1912 was almost 17 per cent greater than in 1903 and in 1912 the increase was 3.62 per cent over 1910. Thus, while the lines serve 117 persons where they had to serve 100, they have 106½ miles of track today for every 100 miles of track owned in 1903.

What the railroads are trying to prove is that they have been starved, that because of low freight rates, or—to put it the other way—because of high expenses, they have been unable to keep service in harmony with the increase in needs of service. To get money for improvements, they have either to save money or sell new securities. They say that expenses won't permit the saving and that, unless they can show better earnings, no one will buy their securities.

The plea, then, is for money with which to lay new tracks, increase facilities and improve terminals. The Interstate Commerce Commission, if it grant the permission asked for upon the grounds, might direct that increased earnings shall go toward improvements and not toward larger dividends.

THE MONTESSORI SYSTEM.

The system of education devised by the distinguished Dr. Montessori, who is honoring America with a visit, is far from being accepted as the perfect system. There are educationalists here who say that while it might do for backward children it is only a clog in the way of normally intelligent children. Another criticism is that it requires more teachers than the public school system can afford. One of the lady's enthusiastic admirers says that "it is somewhat unfortunate that Dr. Montessori does not seem to have had any experience with typical modern schools in which good methods are employed, while she has certainly seen some extraordinarily poor ones, and she often writes of these as if she thought they were typical of modern education."

Probably the best way to look upon the Montessori scheme is as a break from stereotyped schooling, the chief recommendation for which is that it has been in vogue from time immemorial. It is said of it that pupils are always interested, always delighted with it. That surely is a great advancement, for most of us can remember school only as something unutterably wearisome and stupefying.

Montessori schools are cropping up everywhere in the United States. So it has to be admitted that the method does not represent an improvement upon Italian schools only. Possibly, that which is useful in it will get itself adapted into the general scheme of education and that which is superfluous will be eliminated, the system in the end proving to be one of the minor steps in making schooling quite another thing than what it has oftentimes been—a drudgery.

A CANAL THAT PAYS.

New York maintains a canal between Troy and Lake Champlain. It is eighty-five miles long, has more than twenty locks and permits the passage of boats with a cargo capacity not in excess of 200 tons. Such a waterway is of the old-fashioned type which has fallen on evil days in other parts of the country and which, in this state at least, is pronounced obsolete.

Nevertheless nearly a half million tons of freight were shipped over the Champlain Canal this year. Coal, resin, hay, sand and mill supplies were sent north and the boats returning brought down lumber, iron ore, paper, wood pulp and various other forms of bulk freight—originating, most of it, at or near Montreal. There are four hundred boats in the trade, and though rates average 50 per cent less than railroad rates, canal boat owners obtain a fair return on their investments—and this in spite of the fact that the season is never more than seven months long.

If there was any real demand for water-borne service in Ohio just now, the canals would be put to use just as they are. But there is no such demand and it is only guessing to say there would be any in case the canals were enlarged so as to permit of the passage of thousand-ton barges. The day may come when shippers will turn to the canals again. It would be the part of wisdom to wait this revival before undertaking to deepen and enlarge the waterways.

THE HATCHING PLACE OF REVOLUTIONS.

Uncle Sam's share in the revolutions which periodically uproot the governments of the Central American republics is not wholly that of onlooker and ready peacemaker. He is more concerned with them than that. It appears—according to an article published in the current issue of Collier's—that it is on Uncle Sam's preserves the revolutions are cooked.

The place of the cooking, it seems, is New Orleans. Thither come the gentlemen who are on the outs and are in a sweat to get in. They are joined by gentlemen who have once been in and have been lucky enough to get away before triumphant enemies have entered the capital or obtained possession of the customs houses. There are two or three hotels which shelter this gentry, two or three restaurants which furnish the drinks most inspiring to plotters. Upon evenings when the newspapers congratulate their readers that all the world is at peace and that the common sense of most is about to banish war forever, the exiles and the hungry seekers of office gather about a table and there form neat little conspiracies for seducing the armies, murdering cabinets and getting together the money with which to tempt the American manufacturers of rifles and ammunition to take a chance with the neutrality laws.

Senator Smith of Michigan has proposed to his fellow-congressmen that the United States pass a law forbidding within these borders the promotion of Latin-American revolutions Perhaps that is the only way to cause the dove of peace to take up permanent residence south of the Rio Grande.

THE PROOF OF THE SOAP.

The American Perfumer finds in the census statistics the fact that the number of workers in the soap industry increased more than one-fifth in the course of only five years. The average value of the products of the 420 soap-making establishments increased from $156,593 to $256,138. There is more capital in the business and sales campaigns are carried on more aggressively.

In brief, the American people are using more soap. Yet there are men who deny that we are making progress.

In the poem that won the $40,000 Nobel prize Rabindranath Tagore asks: "Who can strain the blue from the skies?" We don't know, but somebody skimmed the cream off the milky way.

Yes, You Can Live as Your Grandfathers Did---If You Want

WELL, maybe those WERE "the good old days."

Are you willing to go back to the heavy brogan and the horse car, the bath-tubless house and the lamp-lit room to enjoy those "good old times" that sound so well in old men's stories?

But you must give up the electric fan to do it, and the complete paper like The Weekly Blade, the automobile, the stylish clothing you can get so cheaply, and the washing machine, for these are products of a later day—AND ADVERTISING BROUGHT THEM TO YOU.

Your grandfathers did not have advertising to thank for its manifold wonders.

They got the NEW things when some "drummer" braved the discomforts of bad traveling facilities and came out from New York or Boston or Chicago to "do the country."

THEY paid many times what YOU pay for the same things, because the cost of distribution from the factories was so much greater than it is today.

Advertising does the "drumming" today. The "DRUMMER" is now only a SALES REPRESENTATIVE. And advertising drums in thousands of places simultaneously, where formerly only one man did it in one place at a time.

Distribution is simplified. Sales are greater. Profits on individual sales are smaller and YOURS IS THE SAVING.

The NEW things are announced in your Weekly Blade.

You can get them in your favorite stores, in your own town, or by mail from our advertisers.

Inventive genius is rewarded more generously because the things invented are given IMMEDIATE sale and GREATER sale.

And so into the scrap heap go the things our grandfathers HAD to use—

While you have BETTER things, at less than THEY paid for the worse.

You have advertising to thank for it.

And if you READ advertising, you will thank it yet for more than you do now.

For it will save you money, raise your standards of taste, and point the way to cleaner, healthier, more joyous living.

SO READ THE ADVERTISEMENTS IN THIS PAPER TODAY, AND LOOK BACK TO SEE WHETHER YOUR GRANDFATHERS HAD THE FINE THINGS WHICH ARE SO EASILY WITHIN YOUR REACH.

Sunday School

AN OLD MAN'S AMBITION

The International Sunday School Lesson for Dec. 21 Is: "The Division of the Land." Josh. 14.

By William T. Ellis.

Two side lights on our present complex social problem shine from this old story of how the Jews divided up the Promised Land. One affects the basic question of property and the other points to individual efficiency as a solution of difficulties. For here we find our old friend, Caleb, he who wanted to go up and win Canaan when 10 other spies were craven of heart and brought back reports of fear. Now, 45 years later, an old man past 80, he fulfills the ambition of middle life and conquers the hill country with its giants.

As today's slang would put the case, it "took nerve" for these Israelites to go to parceling out the territory that was still in the possession of their enemies. They did not control the land, yet they allotted it. This was conquest by anticipation, an evidence of faith. Just so the Japanese made provision for the Russian prisoners and for the care of their own wounded, before a single gun had been fired. In the same way that the Israelites made plans for the Promised Land, having taken God at his word, so some ripe saints speak of heaven in the present tense, as if they had already entered into possession. Whatever God promises us is as good as ours already.

The Problem of Property.

Unlike a type of person known to all of us, the Bible always faces the hard facts of life. It does not shrink from actual conditions on earth and inhuman nature. And the end of the long wandering in the wilderness presented a problem of property, the old, old, basic question of making a livelihood. Some men would banish this from the Book, as an economic question. But religion cannot be divorced from social problems. After even the most mystical, spiritual and ecstatic sermon is ended, the hearers are obliged to go home and eat. Every normal life must be concerned with things mundane as well as with things celestial. The complete gospel program includes a new earth. Practical life and religion are one, or neither is anything.

A wise word has been written on this apportionment of the Promised Land by Dr. Charles R. Brown, the new moderator of the Congregational National Council: "How much it means that the chosen people, in that rude period of the world's history did not undertake to divide up the commonwealth by force, the strong taking the best of it because they were strong, leaving the fragments to the weak! How much it means that they did not divide it up solely by the power of purchase, those who had the longest purses taking the choicest sites, leaving to the poor the less desirable tracts! They sincerely tried, as best they knew, to ascertain the divine will in the matter and to divide up the land according to that ascertained will. It was a splendid ideal, however imperfectly they may have worked it out.

"God cares about this distribution of goods which goes on, equitably or inequitably, under his great eye. God cares about these inequalities of condition among his children, so glaring oftentimes as to be cruel. God cares that the weak are here and there thrust aside by the shrewd and the strong, and thus defeated in the dearest and noblest desires of their disappointed hearts. There is a will of God concerning all these questions as to wages and hours, as to the appropriation of land and of mines, as to the enjoyment of luxury or the suffering of penury. And our own commonwealth will never measure up to its full moral dignity, it will never attain that full degree of stable prosperity, where each family shall sit beneath its own vine and fig-tree, until, in ways appropriate to our day, wise and good men are equally intent upon knowing the will of God touching all these interests and of obeying that will in the current distribution of the goods of life."

Providing for the Preacher.

The old echoes in the new today's special interest in providing a living and pensions for preachers seems like a paraphrase of the repeated statements in this particular history, concerning the portion of the Levites. They, the priestly tribe, were not given an allotment like the others, but were to be the special care of all, for their ministry was to the whole people. The narrative's reiteration of this point is really impressive.

There is a place, an indispensable place, for the minister in society. We need him more than we need any merchant. For his business is to keep alive that element of life which lifts human society above the brute creation. Anyone who has studied the history of the west is aware that among all the pioneers no shaping hand has left a deeper impress than that of the preacher. The problem of securing an adequate supply of the right kind of ministers, and of maintaining them on a proper scale to the end of their days, belongs to the realm of good citizenship, as well as of religion.

The Old Hero's Plea.

While the distribution of the land was under way, old Caleb, with the privilege of long friendship, asked a special favor of his comrade Joshua. We may say he was exercising "pull." But why? Did he want a fat slice of land, a choice portion, a safe corner? Was he asking to be let in on the ground floor? Not Caleb! He craved as a special boon, "Give me giants and hill country to conquer."

We lift up our heads as we look at the old hero. Our blood courses faster and our nerves tingle. Here is this brave scout of 45 years ago still true to type. He was courageous then; he is just as courageous now. The fire of youth is in his eye; there is no "dead line" except for deadened hearts. Burning mightily in his heart was the old ambition to conquer that hill country with its giants, which had so frightened his fellow spies. Now, the pertinacious old warrior wants to prove at this late day, that he was right all along. The matter touched the honor of Jehovah, and Caleb wanted to vindicate it. So he had the fighter's joy of winning over a formidable adversary.

The race is slandered by those who say that everybody is looking for an easy job, a "soft snap." Far from it. There is that in the common heart which responds to the call to hardship. What war among freemen ever failed of volunteers! The hardest mission fields find it easiest to get recruits. One reason that church work does not prosper more is that it has been established too much upon a basis of indulging and coddling Christians. If members were given harder tasks the response would be better. Phillips Brooks knew the heart of man when he sounded the trumpet call: "Do not pray for easy lives; pray to be stronger men. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers: pray for powers equal to your tasks."

An Early Case of "Recall."

Some of us are so busy watching the waves that we overlook the tide. We are so interested in battles that we do not see the outcome of the war. The habit of taking long looks belongs to the wise. Patience is Godlike; for with Him "a thousand years are as a day." God takes time for the working out of his plans. He is quite used to reversing today's verdict tomorrow.

An early instance of "recall" is in this lesson story. Look back 45 years, to Madesh-Barnea. Do you see the Israelites voting down Caleb and Joshua and their report? They discredited these men utterly; in fact tried to rob them. Now, where are those voters? And where the winning ticket of the spies? Ah, the decision has been recalled, the judgment reversed, and Joshua and Caleb, comrades in conquest, are vindicated before the nation. As has been true countless times since, the minority was right and the majority was wrong.

That is the fashion of history. The martyr fires of yesterday are the beacon lights of today. The real victors, all down the centuries, have been those who dared stand fast by truth and conscience. The Promised Land—all promised lands—may surely be won; let us stand by that faith in God and man, and never desert the eternal program for the moment's advantage. It seems a far cry from Israel in Egypt, a horde of slaves, to Israel triumphing in Canaan, but that is only typical of God's program for human life.

Gems of American Humor

Selections From the Works of the Country's Foremost Humorists.

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From "Sparrowgrass Papers;" by F. S. Cozzens.

WE have put a dumb-waiter in our house. A dumb-waiter is a good thing to have in the country, on account of its convenience. If you have company, everything can be sent up from the kitchen without any trouble; and if the baby gets to be unbearable, on account of his teeth, you can dismiss the complainant by stuffing him in one of the shelves and letting him down upon the help. To provide for contingencies, we had all our floors deafened. In consequence, you cannot hear anything that is going on in the story below; and when you are in the upper room of the house there might be a Democratic ratification meeting in the cellar and you would not know it. Therefore, if any one should break into the basement it would not disturb us, to please Mrs. Sparrowgrass, I put stout iron bars in all the lower windows. Besides, Mrs. Sparrowgrass had bought a rattle when she was in Philadelphia; such a rattle as watchmen carry there. This is to alarm our neighbor, who, upon the signal, is to come to the rescue with his revolver. He is a rash man, prone to pull trigger first and make inquiries afterward.

One evening Mrs. S. had retired and I was busy writing, when it struck me a glass of ice-water would be palatable. So I took the candle and a pitcher and went down to the pump. Our pump is in the kitchen. A country pump in the kitchen is more convenient; but a well with buckets is certainly more picturesque. Unfortunately, our well water has not been sweet since it was cleaned out. First I had to open a bolted door that lets you into the basement hall, and then I went to the kitchen door, which proved to be locked. Then I remembered that our girl always carried the key to bed with her and slept with it under her pillow Then I retraced my steps, bolted the basement door, and went up into the dining-room. As is always the case, I found, when I could not get any water I was thirstier than I supposed I was. Then I though I would wake our girl up. Then I concluded not to do it. Then I thought of the well, but I gave that up on account of its flavor. Then I opened the closet doors; there was no water there; and then I thought of the dumb-waiter! The novelty of the ideas made me smile. I took out two of the movable shelves, stood the pitcher on the bottom of the dumb-waiter, got in myself with the lamp; let myself down, until I supposed I was within a foot of the floor below, and then let go!

We came down so suddenly that I was shot out of the apparatus as if it had been a catapult; it broke the pitcher, extinguished the lamp, and landed me in the middle of the kitchen at midnight, with no fire and the air not much above the zero point. The truth is, I had miscalculated the distance of the decent—instead of falling one foot, I had fallen five. My first impulse was to ascend by the way I came down, but I found that impracticable. Then I tried the kitchen door, it was bolted. I tried to force it open; it was made of two-inch stuff, and held its own. Then I hoisted a window, and there were the rigid iron bars. If ever I felt angry at anybody it was at myself for putting up those bars to please Mrs. Sparrowgrass I put them on, not to keep people in, but to keep people out.

I laid my cheek against the ice-cold barriers and looked out at the sky; not a star was visible; it was as black as ink overhead. Then I though of Baron Trenck and the prisoner of Chillon. Then I made a noise. I shouted until I was hoarse, and ruined our preserveing-kettle with the poker. That brought our dogs out in full bark, and between us we made night hideous. Then I thought I heard a voice and listened—it was Mrs. Sparrowgrass calling to me from the top of the staircase. I tried to make her hear me, but the infernal dogs united with howl, and growl, and bark, so as to drown my voice, which is naturally plaintive and tender. Besides, there were two bolted doors and double-deafened floor between us; how could she recognize my voice, even to hear it? Mrs. Sparrowgrass called once or twice and then got frightened; the next thing I heard was a sound as if the roof had fallen in, by which I understood that Mrs. Sparrowgrass was springing the rattle! That called out our neighbor, already wide-awake; and he came to the rescue with a bull-terrier, a Newfoundland pup, a lantern, and a revolver. The moment he saw me at the window he shot at me,, but fortunately just missed me. I threw myself under the kitchen table and ventured to expostulate with him, but he would not listen to reason. In the excitement I had forgotten his name, and that made matters worse. It was not until he had roused up everybody around, broken in the basement door with an ax, gotten into the kitchen with his cursed savage dogs and shooting iron, and seized me by the collar, that he recognized me—and then he wanted to explain it! But what kind of an explanation could I make to him? I told him he would have to wait until my mind was composed, and then I would let him understand the whole matter fully. But he never would have had the particulars from me, for I do not approve of neighbors that shoot at you, break in your door, and treat you, in your own house, as if you were a jailbird. He knows all about it, however—somebody has told him—somebody tells everybody everything in our village.

Swindle by Telephone

Milwaukee Wisconsin.

COMMERCIAL Paris is agitated over a commercial scandal of a suggestive and uncommon kind. According to the story told in Liberte, two or three conspirators, including a well known broker and physician, bribed a number of operators and several of the higher officials in one of the chief telephone centers in the city. By this means they were able to tap the private wires of some of the largest operators on the corn exchange, and thus get early information which enabled them to speculate with absolute certainty of profit. At the same time, the wires of the operators were temporarily disconnected, so that it was impossible to communicate with their agents in the exchange until the conspirators had had time to put their plans into execution. When the operators, who do not seem to have suspected collusion, complained, they were put off with the usual excuses or explanations with which they had to be contented. It is said that the scheme worked successfully for a long time, before the increasing number of complaints awakened suspicion and led to a systematic investigation by the telephone authorities. There is a rumor that the prime originator of this conspiracy is a personage of considerable weight in the commercial world, who may yet be involved by the confessions of his agents.

VARIETIES

The petroleum industry of the United States has more than trebled in [illegible] years.

More than 207,000,000 cigars were exported from the Philippines in the [illegible] fiscal year.

There are more than 3,500 books [illegible] electrical subjects in the library of congress at Washington.

Crowds in motion on grandstands and similar structures exert a stress equal to about 175 per cent of the weight.

Switzerland plans to establish a national park in a valley rich in botanical and geological treasures.

The largest and highest cactus in the world is found in Arizona. It is [illegible] feet in height.

Searchlights are to be found mounted on the observation platforms of some western railroad trains.

Tobacco is the chief product of northern Borneo, but the land produces only one crop in eight or nine years.

The Brazilian cannot get a degree of medical doctor from any institute in his own country. They are [illegible] granted.

The total outstanding life insurance policies in Japan aggregate approximately $425,000,000.

A stalk of red top hay 7 feet 9 inches high was grown on a farm near Fenmore, N. Y.

About 42,000 persons are engaged in the manufacture of musical instruments in this country.

In Massachusetts all streams of water unsuited for drinking must be marked so that the fact cannot be overlooked.

Norwegian wood pulp is being imported into Canada, a second carload having reached Monreal at the end of October.

Ten thousand acres are planted to figs in Tift county, Georgia. The owners figure on making a profit of about $100 an acre.

Bronchitis is the most fatal disease in England; next comes consumption and then heart disease, pneumonia and scarlatina.

Fish guano exports from Norway during the first half of this year totaled 9,000,000 pounds, or almost double the quantity in the like period last year.

Russia is the home of nearly one-half of the world's Jews and is the only country with a larger Jewish population than the United States.

While there are no reliable statistics of the pastoral industry in Brazil it is estimated that there are 20,000,000 cattle in the country.

A government expert at Washington has succeeded in making a motion picture film showing the entire process of honey making by bees.

The island of Porto Rico has one peak, according to the United States geological survey, which is 3,532 feet in height. This is the highest point in the Luquillo mountains.

Better roads for Ontario province are to be made with the $10,000,000 appropriation, expenditure of which will be under the supervision of a nonpartisan commission appointed by the government.

It is said that 100,000 canaries are kept in Paris apartments, and that it costs $2,000 a day to supply them with chickweed alone. They also consume large quantities of lettuce, hemp and other seeds.

Electricity is generated by a water mill so successfully at a German technical school that it is estimated that a similar plant could supply light and water for 100 persons at a cost of $125 a year.

When an epidemic of cholera is raging in the Philippines the authorities do not close the schools to avoid contagion. They keep them open as centers of hygienic information for preventing the spread of the disease.

To commemorate the fourth centennial of the discovery of the Pacific a national exposition will be held in Panama City, beginning December, 1914. The date originally fixed was January, 1914, but it was found that this did not allow sufficient time for preparation.

This year's decrease in total area under crops and grass in England and Wales is 45,308 acres. The decline in arable land amounts to 277,000 acres, most of which was transferred to permanent pasture, and the latter now for the first time surpasses 16,000,000 acres.

The exports of rattan and seagrass furniture from Hong-Kong to the United States have increased fully 50 per cent in the last two years. The increase in recent months has been almost altogether in rattan, as distinct from the linen and seagrass goods.

Nigeria has already a little more than 900 miles of railway, and the imperial government has sanctioned the details for a proposed Nigerian eastern railway from Ignocha, at the head of the Bonny estuary, to the Niger at Kaduna, where it will join the existing line. It is estimated to cost at least $15,000,000.

More than 200,000,000 cubic yards of material has been removed from the Culebra cut and deposited elsewhere. This, a writer argues, has involved a readjustment of weights on the surface which, taken in connection with such heavy blasts as that of 40 tons of dynamite, which was used to destroy the Gamboa dike, may have had some predisposing effect on the recent earthquake shocks in the Panama region.

Authorities in the drug business calculate the number of soda fountains in use in the United States at not less than 75,000, and they are said to represent an investment of $50,000,000. The annual receipts of these supplies for soft drinks may reach $500,000,000.

For a state possessing no seaboard Arizona has a wider range of altitude than may be generally supposed. Its highest point is San Francisco peak, 12,611 feet above the sea, and its lowest point is on the Colorado river at Yuma, where the elevation is only 100 feet.

Copenhagen is the most law abiding city in the world, according to statistics concerning homicide. In the year 1910, among its population of 554,400, there was only one murder. This was at the rate of 0.18 to 100. The rate of homicides to each 100,000 in Paris in the same year was 5.6; in New York, 6.9; in Chicago, 9.2.

In 1912 there were 100,000 head of cattle in Hungary than in 1911. To this fact is principally responsible the scarcity of beef which was apparent in the latter part of 1912. The native Hungarian cattle (Bonyhad) are gradually becoming extinct and are being replaced by Siemmanthal, Alganer and other western stock which, although less hardy and not so desirable in some respects, produce a better quality of beef and grow more rapidly than the native Hungarian cattle.

The PEACE PAGE.

MARTHA HOLDEN — EDITOR

THE USE OF POETRY

By Martha Holden.

Ever and ever so many Christmases ago, when I was a little girl, my old-fashioned Uncle Jabez put into my hands a copy of Oliver Goldsmith's works. It was in red cloth binding, with a white enamel medallion on the top cover, having a golden vase of flowers, across which was inscribed "Goldsmith" in green letters. As a matter of fact, I was not at the time, very keen about the book.

Uncle Jabez said as he looked at me over his glasses: "I expect to give you a book of poems each Christmas and birthday, so that you will some day have all the standard poets." I tried to feel thankful to my uncle. He kept a jewelry store, and I had looked forward to something golden; therefore I was later to learn how much greater was this treasure of a book which he had so wisely provided.

After Christmas, when I had exhausted all the girls' story books that were a large share of my Christmas, I turned to Goldsmith, for I loved Uncle Jabez and did not wish to seem ungrateful.

As I turn its gilt-edged pages today, my first poetic volume, I find it a complete edition, illustratedd with steel engravings which might have been done by Sir Joshua Reynolds, so graciously do they illumine the eighteenth century text.

The first poem in the book is "The Traveler," with its marvelous opening lines, which must linger as long as memory. There is, beside, "The Deserted Village"—"sweet Auburn, loveliest village of the plain" and "Madam Blaize," and "When Lovely Woman stoops to Folly." Beyond these lie the comedies, "The Goodnatured Man" and "She Stoops to Conquer." Then follows the tragic tale, "The Vicar of Wakefield."

One by one, I read the poems, plays, stories and even some of the lighter essays of my first "grown-up" volume, and it probably means more as a possession than any book on my shelves. There are undoubtedly better introductions to the mystic realm of poesy than through the mannered verse of Goldsmith, but the fact of being introduced early through any proper medium is the vital thing.

Many men and women have found a lasting delight in the poetry of Walter Scott. I know a man who repeats "The Lady of the Lake," which he learned in early youth, and which implanted in him a love for beautiful lakes and romantic islands, which no amount of present business worry can ever destroy. Through Shakespeare is the happy entrance into this magic world often made. "Few living friends," said Robert Louis Stevenson, "have had upon me an influence so strong for good as Hamlet or Rosalind."

"There is an immortal book that moves me still more," says Rider Haggard, "a work that utters all the world's yearning, anguish and disillusionment in one sorrow-laden and bitter cry, and whose stately music thrills like the voice of pines heard in the darkness of a midnight gale, and that is the book of Eccleciastes."

It was said that Longfellow was once driving in a closed carriage near Newcastle, England, when the carriage was suddenly halted and the door violently opened. Looking out, the poet saw that he was surrounded by a group of coal-begrimed miners. He at first thought he was going to be robbed.

"Is this Mr. Longfellow?" asked one of the men. "It is," said the poet.

"Well, sir, some of us heard that you were to pass here about this time, and we got permission to come up out of the mine and see you. We just want to shake your hand and say, 'God bless the man that wrote the Psalm of Life.'"

Every week come to our poet's corner the copies of such dear old favorites as the poem which had inspired the miners. I like to think that every reader of this page has some poem that preserves to him an ideal in the midst of his work-a-day life.

"Without a vision the people perish," and the love of poetry helps to keep the vision.

I always feel sorry to hear a man or woman say: "I don't like poetry" or "I can't enjoy poetry."

As a matter of fact I don't believe that there is really such a person. "Everybody is a poet, if you just scratch deep enough," says a popular writer. And this is true, because we must all keep the "vision."

I don't believe there are any Peace Page readers who could conscientiously say they do not like poetry. The Poet's Corner mail grows apace, and there is a fine feeling of helpfulness and reciprocity here that is the very essence of idealism.

"Send you so many copies of poems," says a contributor, "that I feel almost like an assistant editor."

From the west and from the east, from the north and from the south come the copies in response to every request, joyously given, and always with a kindly message of helpfulness and happiness of the finding of one new poem.

I should like to think that all the boys and girls of our happy page would read and learn this year at least one helpful piece of poetry, a melody which would accompany them all the days of their life.

For poetry keeps before us the vision of the ideal, it sets life to music, it makes joyous the common place.

C. Alphonso Smith, professor of English in the University of Virginia, aptly expresses the message of poetry in these words:

"It is not ideas that make a people's civilization, but ideals. Ideas are what people think, ideals are what they strive for. An idea is a ladder on the ground; an ideal is a ladder set up."

THE COZY CORNER

CENTRALIZED SCHOOLS

I am an old woman nearly 54, but I love to read the Peace Page. I am the mother of five children, three boys and two girls, all married but one, a nice little boy ten years old last August. Say, boys and girls, would you call him little? He weighs 130 pounds. He goes to school every day and is in the fifth grade. We have centralized schools. This is our first year. My husband drives one of the wagons. I think we will like it after everybody gets used to it. I, myself, like you girls and boys, still have a hobby. I love to milk the cows and make good butter. I have had my butter engaged for 20 years. I get 25 and 30c a pound. Can't handle so much as I did when my dear little girls were home with me. My oldest daughter has two boys of her own, aged six and three years. My other daughter has two fine girls, nine and seven; my oldest son also has two pretty little girls, three and one-half and one year old. He is an engineer. He runs to Toledo, the home of this dear old paper. My other son and wife live in the beautiful city of Dayton.—L. M. G.

THE VENERABLE SLATE

I see under our correspondents that T. J. C., of Ohio, has a tin cream pitcher 120 years old and asks if any other reader of the Blade has as old a relic. My great-grandfather, Tobias Peters, came from Virginia to Tennessee (I know not the date). He brought his slate. He raised 14 children. They all used this slate more or less and it fell into the hands of my grandfather, James Peters, who was born in 1798. He raised 13 children and they all used it more or less. Then it fell into the hands of my father, Rev. A. C. Peters, who was born in 1843. He raised 11 children and we all used it more or less. I am the baby and in my twelfth year and father has given me the slate. There is not a crack in it and the same old frame is around it. Perhaps it is 150 years old. It is a very dear relic to me.—C. P., Tennessee.

REMINISCENCE

I love the Peace Page. I am a girl of 59, and well do I remember my dear old sainted mother spinning flax on the little wheel, carding oats and running candles. I have the wheel and reel that she taught me to use, and I have spun hundreds of skeins of yarn. How well did I enjoy those days of my childhood. I remember the day I was 13 years old I spun five skeins of yarn. That was 50 knots, 40 threads in a knot, just to see how much I could spin. I was the youngest of nine children. All have passed away to the better land but two who live in the flower state of California, and myself. Does any one know where I can find the poetry called "In the New Country?"—Mrs. C., Pennsylvania.

DO GIRLS LEAVE THE FARM?

I think they do, for I am one of them and know whereof I speak. There were five of us, two boys and three girls. Four left the farm and my boys are not farmers. Away back in the fifties boys and girls were called at 4 a. m. in the summer to get up and begin work, milk cows, feed chickens and do other chores before breakfast. The whole day was occupied with work—work until 8 p. m., too late to enjoy a beautiful sunset. Girls then worked in the fields to "save a hand." No time for picnics or a day off. The father took care of the finances, as board and clothes were considered sufficient compensation for the aforesaid labor. The clothes were often ill-fitting and uncomfortable, especially the shoes. To ask for money was like pulling teeth and to be cross-examined as to its use was very humiliating. This is the history of farm life away back in one township at least in Ohio. Can any one be blamed for leaving the farm under such conditions? City people come to the country to enjoy the "beauties of nature," but they have nothing else to do at that particular time. The editor deeply deplores this exodus to the city but he himself is there and only goes to country to have a good time and get a "square meal," and hurries back to the place he advises other people to stay away from.

But the future has a brighter side to the picture for the young folks on the farm. With telephones, electric car lines, automobiles, rural mail delivery and good roads; with all sorts of labor saving machinery, farm life is relieved of much of its drudgery and isolation. Educational facilities are better and many boys and girls avail themselves of instructions in agriculture. Those corn clubs for boys and gardening and cooking clubs for girls followed by a trip to Washington, D. C., is a great incentive to boys and girls to remain on the farm. There is no doubt about it that this exodus from the farm to the towns and cities for 50 years is one of the causes for the high prices. Farms must be well worked to produce intensive farming and this cannot be accomplished without the help of strong young men of intelligence and push.—Mrs. J. M. R., Ohio.

A WORD TO THE WISE

I am very much interested in young girls who are inexperienced. Many do not have the proper home training to help them. Too many mothers push their children into company instead of trying to make them content with their own home. I read three verses in the Illustrated Companion and thought they were so good and sensible that you might print them.—Mrs. E. V. B., New York.

"Pretty misses
Give their kisses
In a free and easy way;
And they wonder,
Think and ponder,
As to why they single stay.

"But wise misses
Keep their kisses
Till they have upon their hands
'His' sweet, pleasant
Diamond present
In those shining golden bands."

Every girl should put this in a corner of her mirror, where she will see it often.—M. H.

THE TEMPERANCE QUESTION

I am a subscriber and a reader of the Toledo Blade and I like it very much. I cannot tell which page I like the best for I am interested in every page. I wish every boy and girl in America could read it and profit by its teaching and I am sure there would be less trouble and heartache in the world. I am a member of the W. C. T. U. and am interested in prohibition of the liquor traffic. I think drink is the worst curse our nation knows today. It is ruining boys that fond Christian mothers have rocked in their arms and prayed for. It is making brutes, yes, worse than brutes, of husbands and fathers that were once good and kind. It is causing poverty and destitution, crime and misery. How long is a Christian nation going to let such a terrible evil flourish?—M. A. B.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Make a little fence of trust
Around today.
Fill the space with loving words,
And therein stay;
Look not through the sheltering bars
Upon tomorrow,
God will help thee bear what comes,
If joy or sorrow.

Our Correspondents

Margaret L. Masters, Alma, W. Va., requests Why He Wouldn't Sell the Farm, Osler Joe, Asleep at the Switch and the Switchman's Christmas Story all to sing for the Corner.

Can any one tell something of the manner and style and changes in style of women's dress during the past century? I am very anxious for some information on this subject, as I have an important paper to write. Hence, turn to The Blade, which is very helpful and welcome.—Mrs. J. C. A., Colo.

If Mrs. D. M. of California will send stamped and addressed envelope the Twilight Musing will be forwarded. It is too long for the Corner.

I have been a constant reader of the Peace Page for a long time and think it is a great help to a man of my standing. I live on a farm in western North Carolina. This part of the state is so beautiful that it is called The Land of the Sky. I send my heartiest congratulations to those who explained Why Boys Leave the Farm. —J. B., N. C.

Will someone who has a Christmas recitation please send it to Ella Wilson, Ellwood City, Pa.

For Mrs. D. M., California, Twilight at Sea.
The twilight hours, like birds, flew by,
As lightly and as free,
Ten thousand stars were in the sky,
Ten thousand on the sea;
For every wave with dimpled face,
That leaped upon the air,
Had caught a star in its embrace
And held it trembling there.

The quotation given is all that Bryant's library of poetry and song gives. Amelia B. Welby is the author, born in America in 1821. In this collection are also The Golden Ringlet and The Old Maid.—A. H., Ohio.

We are readers of The Blade and have been for about 15 years and like the paper very much. I just noticed the items of T. J. C., Ohio, asking if any reader has a relic older than the tin cream pitcher. I have a copper sun dial or sun clock dated A. D. 1788, or 125 years old; also a penny dated A. D. 1800, and a wooden clock keeping good time that is supposed to be 100 years old —E. F. I., Box 63, Miller City, O.

I take this means of answering your numerous letters and cards. It is quite impossible for me to answer all the letters and cards I have received and do my housework. However, I thank you all. Would answer all if I could possibly do so.—Euphemia Burrows, Wire Ridge, W. Va.

A letter from Montana awaits Captain I. H., Pa. Will he kindly send full address.

The address of Lillian of W. Va., is requested.

Interested Reader asks: Is Bayard Taylor's At the Court of Charlemagne prose or poetry, and where is it to be found?

Will the readers kindly send a Christmas card, or other card of greeting, to Thomas F. Lockhart, Wellington, Missouri? He has lain in bed 26 years, but has ever held firm to the Saviour through it all—E. B. B., N. Y.

I kindly ask you to send letters, cards, tokens of regard, or anything to cheer the heart of a lonely one, a lady nearing the sunset of life, whose aged husband is in a hospital. Friends, add a little Christmas cheer to this lonely heart. Address Mrs. Amanda Lowther, Leopold, W. Va.

SANTA CLAUS EXCHANGE

Mrs. Mary Felley, Burksville, Ky., has five children who would enjoy Christmas remembrances.

We have several little ones here who will accpet any toys or whatever you may have to send.—P. D. Mellott, R. 1, Box 30, Needmore, Pa.

We have eight children from seven months to sixteen years. Mrs. A. E. Moody, Indian Springs, Tenn.

Mrs. Moody also sends the name of Mrs. Good, the same address, who has three children.

I have three little girls and one little boy that would be glad to receive books or toys of any kind.—Mrs. Frank Bolyard, Rowlesberg, W. Va.

Four small children, three boys and one girl, whose mother is a widow, need Christmas.—Eveline Buckeloo, Fairmount, W. Va., Route 9.

Maggie Street, Piedmont, O., R. R. 1, has four sisters and one brother, ages five to twelve, who would enjoy gifts.

We are two little boys living in the Ozarks. Dear Santa Claus seldom comes here. I am eleven and my brother is seven. Would be pleased to be remembered by a girl or boy of the Blade.—Yours with love, Lamont and Adin Bacon, Mansfield, Mo.

I have five children that would be delighted with any toys or books they might receive.—Rosa Blevins, Fairfax, Va.

There are six little children who have no mother. Would be glad to see Santa Claus coming and would appreciate all presents that should be sent them. Wishng all Peace Page readers a merry Christmas. Address all presents to C. H. B., Marshall, N. C., R. F. D. No. 1, Box 118.

I am a little boy twelve years old, and have a little brother six years old. Please remember him also. George Ballinger, New Market, Tennessee, Route No. 5, Box 29.

A little six-year-old girl, Wilna Green, Graysville, Tenn., has an invalid father and mother who has to work every day.

I am 7 years old and would like to have a good story book or a doll for Christmas.—Lollie Miller, Misenheimer, N. C.

I am a little boy, 10 years old, and I have two brothers and one little sister. She is seven. We would be glad to receive any kind of books and toys or anything.—Everett Brown, Grafton, W. Va., R. F. D. 4, No. 7.

Sam Robertson, of Bloomville, Ind., R. D. 6, has a family of five boys, age ranging from 3 to 12 years. He is an honest, hard working Christian man, but very poor. Clothing, books or toys would be very thankfully received. Underwear and stockings are badly needed. I wish they might be surprised with something nice for Xmas. Request sent by a neighbor.—Mrs. W. H. B.

Ethel Walter, Cleveland, Tenn., R. R. 4, prints a letter to Santa Claus. She is 8 years old and her father is dead.

We are three little boys, aged three, six and eight years. Our father has been dead one year. Our mother is sick nearly all the time. Would be glad to get a few toys or any useful thing for Xmas.—Care Mrs. Jennie Richardson, Bluff City, Tenn., Box 72.

We are two little boys, 9 and 11 years old; have a sister 12, who would enjoy a visit from Santa. Some toys, books, games or anything you may send will be much appreciated.—John and William Albion, Gobleville, Mich., R. F. D. No. 3.

I have two girls of 10 and 12, both are in poor health and we are in very poor circumstances. They would like a book each and any clothing which might be sent.—Mrs. Nellie Martin, Hartford, Mich., Routh 3, Box 7.

Mrs. D. P. Wright, Richardson, W. Va., asks that three children be remembered.

Miss Ida Lawson, St. Paul, Va., asks that two children be remembered.

There are four of us—one boy and three girls, two, five, nine and twelve years old. The boy is two. "We would enjoy anything useful.—Alberta Smith, Dunlap, Iowa, Box 32.

I have four little boys, aged 10 and 5, and twins aged 15 months. Would appreciate any presents and may God bless those who brighten the home on Xmas morn for little ones.—Mrs. C. C. Morgan, Henderson Cross Roads, Tennessee.

I have two little granddaughters that would enjoy presents of any kind you wish to send. Address Jane Mealey, Ireland, W. Va.

I have six little children. Now if you have anything that you can give the poor, please remember me this Christmas. I have my dear old grandma with me, too.—Mrs. N. B. Jones, Willville, Va., R. F. D. No. 2.

Dora Burns, 15, Marshall, N. C., R. F. D. 2, Box 18, is the oldest of six children, three boys, 13, 10 and 8, and 6, and 3 the two sisters. Lost everything in a fire.

Harry C., aged 10, and Ada Elva Hunt, aged three, Mattie, W. Va., would enjoy books and toys.

I am a little girl eight years old. Would like a big doll, and I have a little baby sister and two brothers younger than myself. Would be glad to receive anything.—Bessie Norris, Randall, Burnett county, Wis.

Mrs. J. A. McCormick, Coalton, O., R. F. D. 1, has four little children, a boy of six, a girl of four, a girl two and a boy nine months. They need clothing as well as toys, the mother says. Just anything that any one may wish to send to these little ones will be thankfully received and we would thank the sender many times.

I have a little brother five years old. Our mamma and little sister are dead. Would like for Santa Claus to remember us. I love books. Papa takes the Blade and I do love to read the Peace Page letters. My little brother's name is Condie.—Herman Ray Moyers, Morristown, Tenn. R. No. 4, Box 48.

A little boy and girl under six years would like a share in the exchange. Their mamma cannot see to fix toys and things. Their names are Dan and Leanna Niemann, East Randolph, N. Y., Route 1.

I have three small boys who would be glad to get Christmas presents—something they can use.—Mrs. Elva Wylie, West Union, Ohio, R. D. 3, Box 36.

Chester Empfield, age 10, Black Lick, Pa., Route 1, Box 26, would appreciate Christmas gifts. He says: "I have no father and no mother, and the lady who keeps me is sick and poor." He would like books or something to wear to school.

Mrs. Florella Wall, 731 West Green street, High Point, N. C., is the mother of five children, who would appreciate clothing or toys. The oldest is a girl of 12, next a boy of 10, another boy of 8, a girl of 6 and one of 5. The mother is in poor health.—A Friend.

Reggie and Forest Wiseman would appreciate toys of any kind. They are aged 3 and 6 years.—Mrs. McC. Wiseman, Hominy Falls, W. Va.

The Good Receiver

By Martha Holden.

At this season all the woman's magazines are packed with hints to Christmas givers. There is page after page on what to give and how to give it. Our eyes are tired of reading Christmas suggestions and of how to make pretty trifles of ribbon and lace with which to aid the poor working girl or abet the hired man.

No wonder a lot of people grow cynical at Christmas time, the very season when all cynicism should be hidden.

There is so much talk about how and what to give, the problem of receiving doesn't get a chance to balance the argument.

I remember that I had this borne in upon me last year in a way which I hope I shall never forget. A day or two after Christmas I was at a woman's house where the gifts were still on display on a big table in the upstairs hall. I love to look at people's presents, and we had a beautiful time going over hers, except for remarks like this: "See what a lovely silver dish Uncle Abel sent me. Well, he ought to give that much anyway, and more. He can afford it, and I've always been kind to him, which is more than his own children have been," or this: "Poor Mrs. Dawson sent me this doily. She crocheted it herself. Isn't it exquisite work? But I couldn't help feeling that she ought to have sold it and bought herself some gloves. She hasn't a decent pair to her name," or this: "Cousin Emmeline gave me this handsome book. I know she must have economized for weeks to do it."

See what a poor receiver this woman was. She couldn't enjoy the presents and let it go at that; she had to estimate incomes and speculate on fortunes and trace the gift to first principles. If she had been a good receiver she would have been glad that Uncle Abel wanted to send her the dish of his own choosing; happy in the thought that Mrs. Dawson cared to crochet for her, and appreciative of the Christmas spirit of sacrifice in Cousin Emmeline. It takes two to make Christmas—the giver and the receiver, and let's not fall down as receivers.

When you find that you have a bad receiver on your Christmas list, cross him off. Give him just as much Christmas love as you can muster, but don't bother trying to please him until he stumbles on to how to receive. It seems to me that we of this page are especially pleased this year in feeling sure of good receivers. The tone of the letters of the Santa Claus Exchange is sincere. We shall make no mistake in giving to, or sharing with those children of Our Page, whatever we can of Christmas.

The blessed children! Christmas is their day and to please them is inevitable, with the slightest effort and expenditure. Let not one of the least of these children be unremembered. It is an easy way to Christmas happiness for us all. As Carolyn Wells writes in the Home Journal:

"To make Christmas
Take two pence,
And common sense,
The common sense will do
In place of pence."

POEMS WANTED

Shed No Tears for Me.
Driving Home the Cows.
The Boys, by O. W. Holmes.
Can We Forget When He Joined the Brass Band?
Katie Lee and Willie Gray.

HOUSEHOLD

A few weeks ago a lady asked for a way to keep dried corn from getting wormy. If you will tell her to heat up her corn and put in glass cans and seal the same as canning fruit, she will have no further trouble. I put mine in one-half gallon cans and use new rubbers and I have kept it nearly two years and kept it fine.—Mrs. A. A. W., Ohio.

To Perplexed Housekeeper will say: Have fruit or corn well dried. Then heat thoroughly in oven. When cool put in tin buckets with a tight lid. I use gallon lard buckets in drying corn. I sprinkle a little salt on it when putting it out to dry.—A Reader.

To Perplexed Housekeeper will say: The worms in dried fruit are not caused by housefiles, but by a small miller. I had a similar experience with dried fruit and found all fruit kept in cloth sacks was wormy, that kept in tight paper sacks was entirely free from worms the next year, notwithstanding the little millers were thick about them.—G. E. H., Tallahassee, Fla.

Will you please ask some one to send a recipe for pound cake?

CHEER-UP ROW

Miss Dell Russell, 31 Liberty street, Nantucket, Mass, is very deaf and therefore a shut-out, rather than a shut-in. She is 72 years young and might enjoy cards.

Will you please publish a request for post card shower for a dear little girl who fell and broke her arm? Her address is Miss Thelma Lamm, Edgmont, S. Dak.

Mrs. Lucinda Noyes, Sugar Grove, Pa., was 77, December 2. Her friends gave her a post card shower and her grandson asks that the readers send cards as "after drops of the shower."

I am a shut-in, a victim of rheumatism. I have lain in bed for the last year in one position. I try to look on the bright side so as to not make those around me miserable. Reading is a source of enjoyment for me and without something to read time seems to pass very slowly. I would like cards and letters from readers of the Peace Page. Also any good stories. I will answer all I can.—Doc Romine, Miletus, W. Va.

Dear Readers of the Blade—I am a shut-in. I haven't walked for about three years, but my trust is in the dear Lord, who holds our life in His hands. I like to read the Peace Page. I read about some shut-ins. I would like to correspond with some of the dear readers. I would appreciate a shower of post cards as it will soon be Christmas and I won't get many presents.—Mary E. Stayton, Casey Creek, Adair county, Ky.

Many thanks to those who shared their self-threading needles with me. With love and best wishes.—Mrs. Geneva Shapptail, Ind.

I ask cards for a dear child of 10 years, a little sufferer who lives near me, Leo Fagan, Highland avenue, Marion, Ind.—Mrs. I. H. A., Ind.

My mother has been a shut-in for 20 years. Cards for Christmas would cheer her. Address Mrs. Margaret Roach, Star City, Ind.—Mrs. I. B. Mc.

To keep carrots through the winter: Put a layer of sand or dry dirt (sand is better) into a box or barrel, then a layer of carrots, alternating with the sand until all are covered, taking care that the sand is close to the vegetables all around. Parsnips, vegetable oysters and beets, should be treated in the same manner.—An Old Gardener.

POETS' CORNER

OH, MY SOUL, YOU MUS' BE WALKIN' IN YO' SLEEP

By Ruth M'Enery Stuart in Delineator.

Oh, my soul you mus' be walkin' in yo' sleep,
'Case you nuver seems to heed de danger jines;
When you skirts de verges whar de water's deep,
An' you leads my foots to thorns an' tangled vines—
Yas, I'se feared you sho is walkin' in yo' sleep.

Walkin', walkin'—gropin, gropin'—
Gropin' in you' sleep;
Oh, my soul, I's hopin', hopin'
Dat you'll wake befo' you stumble in yo' sleep.

Oh, my soul, you mus' be walkin' in yo' sleep,
Or you wouldn't dast to stray so fur f'om home,
Whar de gurglin' laugh and playin' fountains leap
'Tel de conscience-call is drownded in de foam.
Better quit dis rackless business in yo' sleep!

Walkin', laughin'—laughin', gropin'—
Gropin' in yo' sleep;
Oh, my laughing soul, I's hopin'
aDt yo' laugh won't turn to weepin' in yo' sleep.

Oh, my soul, you mus' be walkin' in yo' sleep,
'Les' you'd reco'nize de tempter by yo' side
Wid de sugar tongue an' swishin' flounces sweep—
Look ag'in, my soul, befo' you take a bride!
Oh, my soul, you better wake up from yo' sleep!

Walkin', walkin'—gropin', gropin'—
Gropin' in you' sleep;
Oh, my blinded soul, I's hopin'—
Dat you'll reco'nize yo' danger in yo' sleep.

Yas, you better wake, my soul, wake f'om yo' sleep,
'Fo' you signs away yo' freedom in a dream;
Rub yo' eyes on' look—oh, look befo' you leap!
An' beware de pleasu'e-boats on Jordan's stream!
Wake, my soul, an' stop yo' walkin' in yo' sleep!

Walkin', walkin'—gropin', gropin'—
In de dark o' sleep;
Soon you'll wake I's hopin', hopin',
'Caze it's mighty dange'ous walkin' in yo' sleep.

GET IN AND RIDE

The Boston Herald.

I was trudging one day down a dusty road
While my back was curved under a bit of a load,
And the way was long and my feet were sore
And my bones ached under the load I bore;
But I struggled on in the summer's heat
Then, resting a bit I shouldered my load,
And wended my way down the dusty road.
The morning stretched into the afternoon—
My Journey's end seemed as far as the moon;
Till at length a horse and a wagon drew near,
And my heart revived with a spark of cheer.
But the man saw only his own small soul,
And the narrow way to his narrow goal,
And whippel his horse into a guilty trot,
Though the sand was deep and the day was hot,
And he passed me by on the dusty road,
And I sank still lower beneath my load.
Yet out of the dust came another man,
And he pulled up short, and he gayly cried:
"I say there, comrade, get in and ride!"
And he placed my bundle behind the seat,
And he said, "Climb in here an' rest your feet!
I never pass by a man on the road,
An' 'speshly, friend, if he's got a load."
And my feet were rested, my heart was light;
And I blessed the driver, who gayly cried:
"I say there, comrade, get in and ride!"
Ah! The world is full of sore-footed men
Who need a slight lift every now and again,
And the angels can see through the white cloud rift
All the God-like souls who give them

THE BLACK SHEEP

In a quiet village not so many miles away,
Dwelt a rich and aged man, his hairs were few and gray;
He had three sons, his only ones; both Jack and Tom were sly;
While Ted was honest as could be, and would not tell a lie;
They planned their best to ruin Ted in the old man's eyes—
Their poison soon began its work till Ted was much despised.
One night the old man said: "Begone! You're heartless to the core."
These were the words the lad said, as he stood beside the door:

Chorus:

"Don't be angry with me dad; don't turn me from your door.
I know that I've been wayward, but I won't be any more.
Give me but another chance, just put me to the test—
And you'll find the black sheep loves you, dad, far better than the rest."

Year by year sped quickly and the father now grown old
Called both Jack and Tom to him and gave them all his gold;
"I only need this little room, a place by your fireside."
Then one night Jack returning home brought with him his new bride.
The wife began to hate the father more and more each day,
One night he heard the three declare: "This old fool's in the way!"
They planned next day to take him to a poorhouse that was near.
When like a flash the black sheep's words came ringing in his ear.

A wagon drives up to the door; it is the poorhouse van.
The brothers point toward their dad and say, "There is your man."
Just then a manly form appears and pushes through the crowd.
"Here, stop, you brutes!" the stranger said, "This shall not be allowed.
You took the old man's property and all that he could save.
You even sold the little plot containing his wife's grave;
For I'm his son, but not your kin, from now on till judgment day."

The father clasped the black sheep's hand. The crowd then heard him say:
"Don't be angry with me, lad, I turned you from my door;
I know that I was foolish, I've repented o'er and o'er.
I wish I gave to you my gold, for you have stood the test;
And I find the black sheep loves his dad, far better than the rest."

THE WILD WHITE ROSE

By Ellen H. Willis.

It was peeping through the brambles the little white wild rose,
Where the hawthorn hedge was planted, my garden to enclose;
All beyond was fern and heather, on the breezy open moor,
All within was sun and shelter, and the wealth of beauty's store;
But I did not heed the fragrance of flow'ret or of tree,
For my eyes were on that rosebud, and it grew too high for me;
In vain I tsrove to reach it, through the tangled mass of green,
It only smiled and nodded, behind its thorny screen.
Yet, through the summer morning, I lingered near the spot.
Oh, why do things seem sweeter, if we possess them not?
My garden buds were blooming, but all that I could see
Was that mocking little white rose, hanging just too high for me.

So in life's garden there are buds of promise, too,
Beyond our reach to gather, but not beyond our view;
And like the little charmer, that tempted me astray,
They steal out half the brightness, of many a summer's day.
Oh, hearts that fall with longing, for some forbidden tree,
Look up and learn a lesson from that white rose and me.
'Tis wiser far to number the blessinks at our feet,
Than ever to be sighing for just one bud more sweet.
My sunbeams and my shadows fall from a pierced hand,
I can surely trust His wisdom, since His heart I understand;
And maybe in the morning, when His blessed face I see,
He will tell me why my white rose grew just too high for me.

DAYBREAK

By Henry W. Longfellow.

A wind came up out of the sea,
And said, "O mists, make room for me!"

It hailed the ships, and cried, "Sail on,
Ye mariners, the night is gone!"

And hurried landward far away,
Crying, "Awake, it is the day!"

It said unto the forest, "Shout!
Hang all your leafy banners out!"

It touched the woodbird's folded wings,
And said, "O bird, awake and sing!"

And o'er the farms, "O chanticleer,
Your clarion blow; the day is near!"

It whispered to the fields of corn,
"Bow down, and hear the chiming morn!"

It shouted through the belfry tower,
"Awake, O bell, proclaim the hour."

It crossed the churchyard with a sigh,
And said, "Not yet! in quiet lie."

THE MOTHER

Hester I. Radford in The Atlantic.

You struggled blindly for my soul
And wept for me such bitter tears
That through your faith my faith grew whole
And fearless of the coming years.

For in the path of doubt and dread
You would not let me walk alone,
But prayed the prayers I left unsaid
And sought the God I did disown.

You gave to me no word of blame
But wrapped me in your love's belief,
Dear love, that burnt my sin like flame,
And left me worthy of your grief.

TWO WORKERS

Exchange

"Care-Not" saw the day go by,
Watched the little minutes fly,
Heard the message of the clock,
With its hurrying tick-tock;
When the others' work was done
All at once the set of sun
Found him only half way through
With the work he had to do.

Busy, bright "No-Time-to-Waste"
Did not see the moments haste;
Gave himself so much to do,
Keeping useful all day through,
That before he knew it quite
Day had hastened out of sight,
But he knew at set of sun
All his work was nicely done

BOYS AND GIRLS

Two Esthers.

Seeing a letter in the Peace Page not long ago from Esther Chamberlain, I would like to hear from her again as she has the same name as myself. I live in Lackawanna county, 16 miles from the city of Scranton, Pa. I live with my stepfather on a farm. I milk the cow, take care of the horse and drive the horse when necessary.—Esther V. Chamberlain, Elmhurst, Pa., F. R. D. No. 1.

From Massachusetts.

I am eleven years old, and live in Ashfield, Massachusetts. My father takes the Toledo Blade, and I enjoy reading the letters from the boys and girls, but I never have seen any from this part of the country. I have a pet hen that sat on thirteen eggs, and she hatched twelve of them. I have seven kittens, five of them are shaggy, and I have two cats, one of them is shaggy.—Joseph Tatro, So. Ashfield, Mass.

An Old Hymnal.

I live on a farm in the dear old state of West Virginia, one and one-half miles from Cairo. I see in the Peace Page J. T. C. of Ohio has a cream pitcher 120 years old. Papa has a hymn book which has been handed down for four generations and the nearest he can tell it is 200 years old. I will be 17 years old the 15th of July and would like to exchange post cards and letters with those of the Peace Page.—Imogene, Cairo, W. Va., R. 2, B. 71.

McKinley Relics.

I live in Niles, a little town in the northeastern part of Ohio, the same town where William McKinley was born. He was a school chum of my grandpa and my great grandpa made his first cradle. My mother has an old three cornered cupboard that was owned at one time by William McKinley's father and mother when they lived in Niles. We have taken the Blade for about five years.

I go to school and play school at home. I was nine years old June 8. I should like to exchange cards with the boys and girls and I will send them all a picture of McKinley's old birthplace.—Vera Evans, Niles, Ohio, rear 54 Vienna avenue.

Attention, Girls.

I am a little boy, 60 years of age. I work in a planing mill, and keep bees and sell honey for pastime. I have taken The Blade for a good many years; I like to read the Children's Page. I like boys and girls, the girls the best. I have a class of boys in the Methodist Sunday school. We never had any boys or girls of our own, I have had lots of make-believe little girls, but they always grow big and then they are not interesting. I have none now so I thought I would see if I couldn't find one in The Blade family. I would like to have her right away before Christmas. I want one that can talk to me (on paper) about natural things—birds and flowers and all kinds of out-door life. Please find her soon if you can.—J. M. Walker, New Bethlehem, Pa.

SHORT AND SWEET.

I think our motto is great. Say, boys and girls, let's think of it when we go about our work and practice it and we will be sure to succeed.—Dare of West Virginia.

I would like to hear from Miss Elsie Limberger again, for I am always glad to hear from people from North Carolina or Tennessee.—Sarah E. Garland, Fall Branch, Tenn.

Benton V. Graves, Maynardville, Tenn., likes to kill squirrels with a gun. I wish he didn't, both for his own sake and the squirrels.—M. H.

Chloe Anderson, Duke, Ohio, raises chickens as a hobby. She is in the fifth grade at school.

M. Morris, Howesville, W. Va., is in the seventh grade and would like cards.

Virgie Parsons, Kentuck, W. Va., is 14, has a hobby for washing dishes and would enjoy cards.

Myrtle Hurt, Peters, Va., was 13 December 13.

Alice Alderman, Hooksburg, Ohio, is 9, and likes to ride horseback. Thelma Garner, Unionville, Mo., is also 9. These girls might write to each other.

Leslie Marple, Buckhannon, W. Va., calls herself a cowboy, but as her hobbies are reading, cooking and needlework, she is evidently not one all the time.

MERRY-GO-ROUND

A SOLDIER BOY

I am a soldier boy 23 summers. I have been in the army nearly two years, and have been in thirteen different states during that time. I like Galveston, Texas, best of all. I was encamped there for a while, and was sent to the United States general hospital. I have been here five months. My parents live in Wise county, Virginia, on a farm of 106 acres.—From a Soldier Boy, Fort Bayard, New Mexico.

INFLUENCE IS RESPONSIBILITY

I see the question on the Peace Page is, "Why Do Boys Leave the Farm?" Let me tell you not all boys wish to leave the farm. We are about to, but my brother is against going to the city. He is about through school, but has not decided upon a vocation. Father thinks it will be best to take him in the factory with him.

Do you know, M. G. R.'s, that some people think the world is getting worse and some people think it is getting better. I won't express my opinion as to that, but I can see plainer and plainer, day by day, that people attend to everybody else's business but their own. I see that in some of the letters on the Peace Page. I do myself. Now for instance, whose business is it how other people dress? If people haven't got enough shame in them to dress decently, why God pity them, but it is none of our business, we don't have to suffer for their sins. We have enough of our own to look after. I agree with Raoul Goubert that anyone can dress in so-called style and still not be extreme. Kitty Kern, you are right in calling them enemies instead of friends. Let me ask a question. "Why will a fellow leave a decent girl and go with an indecent one? Now don't say because she dresses so, for I don't consider that a very good reason. I was required to ask this for a questioner from Michigan. Perhaps this isn't any of my business to ask you, but what did I say before.—Spitfire.

Spitfire asks what is our business, and that we must determine. But youth rarely reflects on the value of influence. It is our influence in others that constitute our value to the world, and a girl of gentle speech and refined manners has it in her power to change a whole community, while minding her own business.—M. H.

A BOOK LOVER

I am a young girl of 17 and like the letters that appear in the Peace Page in the Toledo Blade very much. Have any of you ever read "Wide, Wide World," by Susan Warner, and "In His Steps," by Charles M. Sheldon. I think them both to be very good. No young man or woman can read them without gaining a higher sense of man or womanhood, for the characters are beautiful and charming in every respect.—M. H. L., Ohio.

LONSESOME

I live among the dear old West Virginia hills and am proud of it. I am a school teacher, but can say it isn't very interesting for me. I think it too confining. I am like little "Rough Rider" from Tenn.; I enjoy horseback riding and a lively time. My brothers and sisters are all away and I am staying at home this winter teaching school, and you see its very lonesome with only three in the family, and not very many young people around. Would enjoy cards from The Blade readers; will try to answer all I get. Will close by wishing you all a Merry Christmas. — Toy Lee, Grandeville, W. Va.

THE FILTHY WEED

I am a boy of 20 years, live on a farm in southwestern Missouri in the very heart of the Ozarks. My father and mother have taken The Blade for 35 years and to do without it would be like one of the family being absent. Hobbies? Yes, my hobby is to watch for every possible chance to strike the tobacco habit a stunning blow. Just look at the large per cent of the boys that take up the cigarette habit at mere childhood. Boys, be above it. Let's live for something that's really worth while. Let's strive to make ourselves, our fellowmen and our country better today than it was yesterday.—R. L. H., from the "Show Me" state.

Cornish Sent To You For A Year's Free Trial

Why Shouldn't You Buy As Low As Any Dealer?

More than 250,000 people have saved from $100 to $150 on a high grade piano and from $25 to $50 on a first class organ in purchasing by the Cornish plan—why shouldn't you? We offer to

Question Bureau

Rules—1. Your real name and post-office address must be on the sheet with the question. Initials will not do. 2. Ask only one question, that is, there may be several questions on the same subject, but no different subject. 3. The Bureau will not give the address of any person or firm, nor answer as to the reliability of any person or of any firm, nor tell where you can buy anything—nothing in the way of free advertising. We reserve the right to decline to answer any question not of general interest to a majority of our readers. 5. We will not answer any questions involving dogma or doctrine, or of Bibical interpretation; no prices of old coins or stamps; no arithmetical or grammatical questions. 6. Do not ask for replies by mail. If the question is of general interest we will reply in print.

GENERAL HANCOCK

Will you please give a biography of General Hancock, the American soldier?—J. G., Greentown, Ind.

Winfield Scott Hancock, the American soldier, was born at Montgomery Square, Pennsylvania, in 1824, and died in February, 1886. He was graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1844, and after frontier service in the sixth infantry, fought with credit in the Mexican war, and was successively regimental adjutant and quartermaster in 1844 and 1855. He was stationed at Fort Meyers, Florida, during the Seminole disturbances and from 1857 to 1858 was in Kansas, from whence he was ordered to Utah and then to California. At the begining of the Civil war, he was commissioned brigadier general of volunteers. He distinguished himself at Williamsburg and during the second's day's fight at Antietam, September 17, 1862, was placed in command of the first division, second army corps. He was promoted major-general, U. S. V., in November, 1862. He largely saved the day at Chancellorsville and shortly afterwards was assigned to the command of the second army corps. In July, 1863, he was ordered to proceed to the field of Gettysburg and report whether battle should be given at that point. He reported Gettysburg as a suitable place for the battle, and on July 3, commanded the left center against which a Confederate charge was directed and in the course of which he was shot from his horse. In 1866 he was appointed major-general U. S. A., and from 1866 to 1872 commanded successively the departments of Missouri, Texas, Louisiana, the military division of the Atlantic and the department of Dakota. In 1872 he was again assigned to the division of the Atlantic. In 1880 he was a Democratic candidate for the presidency, but was defeated by Garfield with a small plurality.

ROBERT MORRIS

Please give a short sketch of the life of Robert Morris.—W. B. C., Linesville, Penna.

Robert Morris, the American financier, was born in 1734 at Liverpool, England, and died in Philadelphia, May 8, 1806. In 1847 he came to the colonies, engaging in business in Philadelphia seven years later. He was one of those opposed to the stamp act, and it was against his business interests that he signed the non-importation agreement in 1765. In 1775, '76, and '77 he was elected to the continental congress, and while a member voted against the declaration of independence as premature, but when it was passed he signed it. From 1781 to 1784 he was superintendent of finance. During the revolution his services in assisting the government in its finances were of great value. He pledged his personal credit for supplies for the army, and at one time to the amount of $1,400,000 without which the campaign of 1781 would have been almost impossible. Morris established what is known as the Bank of North America. He was a member of the convention which framed the federal constitution, and from 1789 to 1795 was a member of the United States senate. While serving his term he was offered the position of secretary of the treasury, but declined, suggesting the name of Alexander Hamilton for the post.

HARPER'S FERRY

Please give description of Harper's Ferry.—J. B. Wolcott, Ind.

Harper's Ferry, W. Va., is situated in Jefferson county, 55 miles northwest of Washington. It is at the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah rivers, where the former breaks through the Blue Ridge, presenting one of the most picturesque scenes in America. Attracted by its fine water power, Washington, in 1796, chose it as the site of a United States arsenal and armory and up to 1860 $1,800,000 had been expended for land and improvements. Here 10,000 muskets were made annually and over 75,000 small arms were usually in store.

Harper's Ferry came into great prominence in 1859 through the acts of John Brown, and was the scene of noteworthy military events during the Civil War.

SIR WALTER SCOTT

I would like to have you publish in these columns a sketch of the life of Sir Walter Scott.—P. A. C., Paw Paw, Mich.

Sir Walter Scott, the Scottish poet and novelist, was born August 15, 1771, and died September 21, 1832. He studied at the University of Edinburgh and was admitted to the bar in 1792. During his leisure hours, as an advocate, he studied German, finally translating several German books into English. In 1802 he published two volumes of ancient ballads which he had collected. It was not until 1805 that he attracted any decided attention as a poet. After being engaged in writing poetry for some time, he began to write prose under another name. In 1814 the first of his novels, Waverley, was written. In 1811 Scott purchased a farm of about 100 acres, which he added to until he had quite a good sized estate. During the following years he wrote many books. He was also a member of a publishing firm which became bankrupt in 1826. In order to pay his debts Scott wrote several books for which he received good sums and also he sold the copyrights to his novels at auction. He retired from active duties in 1830, and in the following winter went to Italy for his health. His strength went rapidly back on him and he only remained away for a few months. He returned to England very quickly in order to reach his home before his death, in which object he was successful.

RULERS OF NATIONS

Kindly give a list of the rulers of the different nations of the world.—E. R. D., Camp, Ohio.

The rulers who bear the title of emperor are, of Abyssinia, Lidj Jeassu; of Austria-Hungary, Francis Joseph; Germany, William II.; Empire of India, George, and Russia, Nicholas II.

The kings are Duy Tan, of Annam; Albert, of Belgium; Christian X., of Denmark; William II., of Prussia; Otto, of Barvaria; Frederick Augustus III., of Saxony; William II., of Wurtemburg; George V., of Great Britain and Ireland; Constantine, of Greece; Victor Emmanuel III., of Italy; Haakon VII., of Norway; Charles, of Roumania; Peter, of Servia; Vagiravudh, of Siam; Alphonse XIII., of Spain, and Gustaf V., of Sweden.

The grand dukes are Frederick II., of Baden; Ernst Louis V., of Hesse; Frederick Francis IV., of Mecklenburg-Schwerin; Adolphus Frederick, of Mecklenburg-Strelitz; Frederick Augustus, of Oldenberg; William Ernest, of Saxe-Wiemar; Marie is grand duchess of Luxemburg.

The dukes are Frederick II., of Anhalt; Charles Edward, of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and George II., of Saxe-Meiningen.

The princes are Frederick, of Waldeck-Prymont; Albert, of Menaco, and Nicholas, of Montenegro.

The sultans are Muley Hafid, of Morocco; Seyyid Feysal bin Turkee, of Oman; Mohammed V., of Turkey, and Seyyid Ali, of Zanzibar.

Habibulla Khan and Seid Abdul Ahad are the ameers of Afghanistan and Kokhara, respectively. Ferdinand is czar of Bulgaria, Albert of Belgium, is sovereign of the Congo Free State. Abbas Pacha iskhedive of Egypt. Johann Albrecht is regent of Brunswick. Mutsuhito is mikado of Japan. Surendra Kikram Shamser Jung is maharaja of Nepal. Wilhelmina is queen of the Netherlands. Ahmed Mirza is shah of Persia. Mohammed en Nasir is bey of Tunis.

The president of Bolivia is Eliodoro Villazon; of Brazil, Hermes da Fonseca; Chile, Ramon Baarros Luco; Colombia, Carlos Restrepo; Costa Rica, Ricardo Jiminez; Cuba, Jose Miguel Gomez; Ecuador, Emilio Estrada; Gautemala, Manuel Estrada Cabrera; Hayti, Cincinnatus Leconte; Honduras, Francisco Betrand; Nicaragua, Adofo Diaz; Panama, Pablo Arosemena; Paraguay, Liberto Rojas; Peru, A. B. Legula; Salvador, Manuel E. Araujo; Uruguay, Jose Battle y Ordonez; Argentine Republic, Saenz Pena; France, Raymond Poincare; Liberia, D. E. Howard; Mexico, Huerta; Switzerland, M. Forrer; United States, Woodrow Wilson; Portugal, Manuel de Arriaga; and of China, Yuan Shi Kai.

THE CARIBS

Kindly give some information concerning the Caribs.—J. A. L., Bangor, Me.

The Caribs were a native American race which attained its highest development in the West Indies. Originating in the valley of the Orinoco, this race spread along the coasts, northward and southward to a great distance, and especially from island to island of the Lesser and Greater Antilles and the Bahamas. At the time of the discovery of America its language was spoken from the coast of Florida to lower Brazil. The Caribs were the Vikings of South America. The race name survives in Caribbean sea, Caribbee islands, the word canibal, etc.; the race itself is still well represented in various parts of South America. In the West Indies, however, the large native population disappeared rapidly after the Spanish conquest, either succumbing under the new conditions or losing their distinctive characteristics by blending with Europeans and Africans. Surviving groups of West Indian Caribs may be studied today in the island of Dominica. A few remained in Martinique and St. Vincent up to the time of the volcanic eruptions in 1902.

ASHEVILLE

Please give a short sketch about Asheville, North Carolina.—M. W., Newark, O.

Asheville, N. C., is the county seat of Buncombe county, on the Southern R. R., near the French Broad river, 275 miles west of Raleigh. It is in a tobacco-growing region, has manufactories of cotton goods, shoes, ice, tobacco and flour, and is widely famed as a winter and summer resort. The city is 2,350 feet above the level of the sea and is surrounded by impressive mountain scenery. It has the Asheville College for Young Women, Bingham Farm School for Boys, Normal College and Collegiate Institute for Young Women, Industrial School for Colored Youth, and auditorium, centrally situated, seating 2,000, weather bureau, three national banks and nearly 50 hotels and boarding houses. It has modern sewerage, electric light and gas plants, a water supply of 17 miles of pipe line from trout streams on the watershed of Mt. Mitchell, and an electric street car system. In the suburbs are the grand estate of Biltmore, one of the finest botanical gardens in the world, Pisgah forest, a hunting preserve of 84,000 acres, Riverside Park and Mt. Beaumont, 2,800 feet high.

WILSON'S CABINET OFFICERS

Kindly give a list of the members of President Wilson's cabinet.—C. C. L., Brinkhaven, Ohio.

The members of President Wilson's cabinet are:

Secretary of state, William Jennings Bryan, of Nebraska.

Secretary of the treasury, William G. McAdoo, of New York.

Attorney general, James C. McReynolds, of Tennessee.

Secretary of war, Lindley M. Garrison, of Jersey City, N. J.

Postmaster general, Congressman A. S. Burleson, of Texas.

Secretary of the navy, Josephus Daniels, of North Carolina.

Secretary of the interior, Franklin K. Lane, of California.

Secretary of agriculture, Professor David M. Houston, of St. Louis, chancellor of Washington University.

Secretary of commerce, Congressman William C. Redfield, of New York.

Secretary of labor, Congressman William B. Wilson, of Pennsylvania.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Will you please give the sixteenth and seventeenth amendments to the United States constitution?—E., Stoney Lonesome, W. Va.

The resolution proposing an income tax amendment to the constitution was passed by the senate July 5, 1909, and by the house July 12. The amendment reads as follows: The congress shall have the power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment, among the several states and without regard to any census or enumeration. This amendment was ratified in 1912. The seventeenth amendment refers to the direct election of senators by the people.

The fifth article of the constitution gives the method of making amendments.

MISCELLANEOUS

A. H., Marmington, W. Va.—A woman is a citizen of the United States but her right to vote is regulated by the different states. The state of West Virginia does not allow women to vote.

M. E. W., Clayton, Mich.—An article on the origin of Labor day was published in the Question Bureau of October 23, 1913.

J. H. L., Oberlin, Ohio—The 18th of December, 1842, was Saturday.

THESE ARE THE HOME GUARDS IN MEXICO

WHILE father is off fighting the rebels, or playing at being a rebel himself, and mother is off somewhere else trying to make a few centavos with which to keep her young ones from starving to death, Pedro and Juan are serving as home guards. Pedro has a musket that is longer than himself and must be rested upon something before he can aim it. Juan is a little better off in the matter of weapons, but he carries enough cartridges to make a marching soldier uncomfortable. Pedro and Juan are the home guards in Mexico and most efficient ones they are. They can shoot—and will shoot, and when mother comes home in the evening one of them sits in the darkness, or in the rain, and keeps close watch lest some prowler come about and try to take advantage of father's absence.

There are thousands of Pedros and Juans in Mexico just now, doing their little service of preventing towns and villages falling into anarchy. They don't know much about books and they never go to picture shows. But they understand that they stand for everything that represents law and order in their communities. If it wasn't for them, outlaws would come down from the mountains and sack the villages. If it wasn't for them, the pitiful little fields would bear only cactus and weeds. If it wasn't for them, the domestic animals would be run off and folk would starve to death and the buzzards that perch on the roofs would have something most dreadful to feed upon instead of the chance horseflesh they get now.

Not only are the Pedros and Juans, mere youngsters, serving as home guards, but some of the armies are made up of them. They ought to be cuddled up in their mothers' laps, or going to school, or playing at simple games in the patios. But these are grim days in Mexico. The Pedros and Juans must be put at the best use that can be made of them. That they are useful is attested by the fact that while there are hundreds of towns guarded only by boys, the guerrillas and bandits and bushwhackers keep away. They know what is best for them.

THE WEEK IN CONGRESS

Monday, December 8.

SENATE—The Alaskan railroad bill was set aside until the currency bill is disposed of. A government steamship line from Pacific coast points to Alaska was proposed in a bill introduced by Senator Poindexter. Senator Smith, of South Carolina, introduced a bill to give the widow of Gen. Gaillard a pension of $2 a month. The currency bill was discussed throughout the day until 11 o'clock last night. Speeches were made by Senators Swanson, Nelson and Weeks.

HOUSE—The Hensley "naval holiday" resolution was passed by a vote of 317 to 11. Representative McKellar made a speech attacking the alleged cold-storage trust, which he charged with being responsible in part for the high cost of living. The immigration committee set Thursday and Friday for hearings on a bill proposing a literacy test. The good roads committee heard several advocates of federal aid. The conference of Chairman Clayton, of the judiciary committee, with President Wilson on trust legislation was deferred until tomorrow. Admiral Victor Blue told the naval committee the navy would have its full complement of enlisted men—51,500—by March 1, 1914. Representative Murray, of Oklahoma, introduced a bill to regulate stock exchanges and their operations and bar speculative advertising from the mails. Representative McDonald, of Michigan, was elected to vacancies on the labor pensions committees.

Tuesday, December 9.

SENATE—Legislation providing machinery for the direct election of senators was discussed, but went over without action. Inquiry into the renomination of Henry M. Pindell, of Illinois, to be ambassador to Russia was renewed by sub-committee of foreign relations committee. The Jones resolution was adopted providing extra clerks for senators whose quota has been short. The currency bill was considered until 11 o'clock last night. Speeches were made by Senators Nelson, Bristow and McLean. At the night session an animated debate followed Senator Owen's charge that Republicans were wasting time.

HOUSE—The lobby committee's report of its investigation of the Mulhall charges was presented. Representative McDonald offered resolutions calling on the house to determine what action should be taken against officers of the National Association of Manufacturers, and the whole matter was referred to the judiciary committee. The interstate commerce committee unanimously recommended a year's salary to the widow of the late Lieut. Col. Gaillard. Representative Reilly, of Connecticut, introduced a resolution providing $100,000 for use in paying the government's expenses in connection with the pan-American scientific congress in Washington next year. The postoffice committee voted favorably on the Sharp bill for experimental use of aeroplanes in carrying the mails. The military affairs committee reported in favor of an aviation corps of 60 officers and 250 enlisted men. Representative Cantor, of New York, in his maiden speech, alvocated elimination of a literacy test from the immigration bill. The first hearing on trust legislation before the judiciary committee was devoted to a brief argument on Representative Morgan's bill for an interstate corporation commission. The naval committee reported in favor of a four-year term for the commandant of the marine corps. The ways and means committee chose Representative Goldfogle, of New York, for the rules committee, and Representative Gray, of Indiana, for naval affairs. Representative Peters, of Massachusetts, introduced a bill for government tests of inventions for hoisting and lowering lifeboats at sea.

Wednesday, December 10.

SENATE — Senator Sheppard, of Texas, introduced a resolution for a prohibition amendment to the constitution. Currency debate continued throughout the day and evening. Speeches were made by Senators Nelson, Crawford, and Sherman advocating the Hitchcock substitute. Senator Sheppard addressed the cenate in favor of nation-wide prohibition and was followed briefly by Senators Owen and Thompson, also advocating the proposed amendment.

HOUSE—Chairman Clayton headed the Democratic members of the judiciary committee who visited the White House and discussed trust legislation with President Wilson. Representative Borland urged the good roads committee to consider states' rights in any federal aid plan that might be adopted. Representative Edwards, of Georgia, introduced a bill to prohibit the interstate shipment of heifer calves. The judiciary committee reported favorably the bill to amend the law against the disclosure of national defence secrets, so as to authorize the Panama Canal Zone courts to take cognizance of offenses committed in the zone. Bills were passed establishing postal savings depots, making postal money orders payable at any postoffice, and reimbursing postmasters for losses through robbery. Representative Wingo introduced the Scott bill to prohibit the use of the mails for the transmission of information concerning cotton futures..

Thursday, December 11.

SENATE—Currency debate resumed with Senator Burton urging adoption of a central bank plan. Resolutions directing the attorney general to report whether only white slave cases of an "international character" are being prosecuted under the Mann law.

HOUSE—Vocational bill taken up. National reservation commission reported acquiring aggregate of 713,415 acres for protection of water sheds under Appalachian project. Edwin F. Howe, New York; K. V. Haymaker, Defiance, O.; and E. L. Keester, Charlotte, N. C., before rural credits committee, in favor of protecting building and loan association in any new legislation. Prohibitionists before judiciary committee, urged constitutional prohibition amendment. Representative Steenerson of Minnesota, before interstate commerce committee urged legislation to prohibit postal transmission of newspapers and periodicals publishing advertisements of falsely represented articles. Representative Lloyd introduced a bill to limit congressmen to $40 a year for official telegrams. Debated without action, senate resolutions for a commission on national aid to vocational educational. J. M. Law, of Kansas City, urged the good roads committee to favor national roads across the continent. D. A. R. authorized to hold $1,000,000 worth of property in a bill favorably reported. Welfare secretaries and more chaplains urged for battleships by Rear Admiral Blue before the naval committee.

Friday, December 12.

SENATE—Deferred consideration of legislation for machinery for direct election of senators. Resumed currency bill debate with Senator Newlands defending the caucus. Senator Lea introduced a bill proposing expenditure of $20,000,000 in federal aid for maintenance of post roads.

HOUSE—Disposed of miscellaneous business upon the calendar. Paymaster General Cowie told a committee it would require $7,713,954 to feed the enlisted men of the navy the coming year. Representative Kinkead, of New Jersey, introduced a bill to make mountain laurel the national flower. Hearings on a law to require steel cars on all passanger trains set for next Wednesday. Chief Forester Graves asked for an additional appropriation of $140,000,000 for extra rangers for the summer months when forest fires are prevalent.

Saturday, Dec. 13.

SENATE—Met at 10 a. m. Resumed currency bill debate.

HOUSE—Not in session; meets Monday.

When navigation officially opened, April 24, there were in elevators, on steamers and on railroad cars at Ft. William and Port Arthur, at the head of Lake Superior, more than 42,750,000 bushels of grain awaiting transportation.

Horse-Power

What It Is and How It Is Estimated.

WHEN we say that an engine develops 100 horsepower we do not mean that 100 horses could produce the same result. And, as the editor of Power remarks, there are few engineers who could tell just how the term "horsepower" came into use. Its origin is related in the following quotation from "Farley on the Steam Engine," published in 1827:

"The machinery in the great breweries and distilleries in London was then moved by the strength of horses, and the proprietors of these establishments who were first to require Mr. Watt's engines always inquired what number of horses an intended engine would be equal to.

"In consequence, Mr. Watt made some experiments on the strong horses employed by the brewers in London, and found that a horse of that kind, walking at the rate of two one one-half miles per hour, could drawn 150 pounds avoirdupois by means of a rope passing over a pulley, so as to raise up that weight with a vertical motion, at the rate of 220 feet per minute. This exertion of mechanical power is equal to 33,000 pounds (or 528 cubic feet) of water raised vertically through a space of one foot per minute, and he denominated it a horsepower, to serve for a measure of the power exerted by his steam engines."

This estimate is much beyond the capacity of the average strong horse, says Power. Smeaton and other early engineers estimated that 22,000 pounds per minute was more accurate.

If I Ate That I Would Die

You Will Never Fear Food if You Go to a Dinner Carrying One Little Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablet.

You needn't pass up all those savory dishes just because you are afraid of what the stomach will say to them. Armed with a box of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets, you can bid defiance to the most cantankerous stomach and be assured that your food will be perfectly digested in spite of the stomach's objections.

"At Every Banquet You Will Always See Some Person Who Is Afraid of Food."

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are a compound of pepsin and those elements that must be secreted by the stomach if the food is to be digested. When the stomach fails to secrete enough of these digestive agencies, the only sane remedy is to supply a sufficient quantity of these element to digest the food. This is the service for which Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets were made and they are recommended by leading doctors and scientists. One or two of these tablets is sufficient to digest the largest dinner. They stop almost instantly all forms of indigestion, such as sour stomach, belching, heartburn, dizziness, brash and dysentery. Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets contain digestive elements, a single grain of which is capable of digesting 3,000 grains of food, such as meats, eggs, grains, vegetables, starches and mineral matters of all kinds.

If your stomach is sluggish or worn out, let Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets do your digesting for you until the stomach can recuperate. Give it a little vacation. It has a hard enough struggle at the best, with all you put in it. And even when your stomach is in perfect condition, you will occasionally need one after a big banquet or other social affair that taxes your stomach to the uttermost.

Make Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets the ever-ready friend and assistant to your stomach. Get a 50c box of your druggist today.

Don'ts for Christmas

Have our storekeepers and homeowners ever stopped to think that some of their beautiful decorations might bear an important relation to their fire insurance? says the Herald and Presbyter.

If not, let them give heed to the following. The National Fire Protection Association has lately made a most important suggestion, or rather has called attention to a very important fact. Here it is: If your insurance is written in a "standard" policy, you will find a clause to this effect: "This entire policy, unless otherwise provided by agreement endorsed hereon or added hereto, shall be void * * * if the hazards be increased by any means within the control or knowledge of the insured."

Any person who buys a policy of insurance on store or home buys it with the above understanding. To deliberately do anything or permit to be done anything which will increase the dangers of the destruction of the building by fire is not only dealing dishonestly with the insurer, but gives him a defense to any action on the policy for a loss incurred by reason of the added danger.

So the Ohio state fire department suggests that the utmost care be exercised in installing the decorations customary at the Christmas season, which we all enjoy, both youthful and mature, but in which danger may lurk.

By way of practical suggestion the department submits the following as to the dangers of the Christmas tree:

"Don't leave an illuminated tree unwatched."

"Don't use festoons of tissue paper or cotton batting on a tree."

"Don't use any ornaments of celluloid."

"Don't let the children touch the tree."

"Don't permit a draft of air to sway the branches of a tree while it is illuminated."

"Don't put cotton beneath a tree to make the carpet look like snow-covered ground."

"Don't remove a thing from the tree until the candles on it are blown out."

"If the appearance of snow is desired for any purpose, use 'mineral wool,' or asbestos. It will not burn and gives a better effect than cotton."

"Finally, let the safety of your children and your property be your first consideration, and Christmas will then be a season of happiness undisturbed by accident."

THE NUN WHO PREDICTED

Possessed of Second Sight—Foretold Assassination of King Humbert.

There recently died at Viterbo, Sister Maria Benedetta, a nun, whose real name was Miss Penelope Frey, and concerning whom many extraordinary stories are related. Says the Chicago Record-Herald. These are chiefly founded upon her alleged possession in a remarkable degree of the power of second sight. This ower, it is believed among the people, enabled her to foretell many great events, and in consequence her death has created a great impression in the quiet old town. Maria Benedetta's life was one of great suffering. Soon after entering the convent where she died, a painful spinal malady attacked her, and for a period of fifty years she is said to have lain in a specially contrived bed in her little cell, her head always resting in a kind of loon made by broad bands of linen hanging from the ceiling.

Her supposed gift of prophecy was, according to general report, first exhibited in 1900, when she foretold to a horrified audience of members of the convent community the assassination of King Humbert. So great was her fame that special permission was granted her to receive pilgrims, who came to visit the convent. At another time she is said to have foretold the death of Cardinal Bedini, bishop of Viterbo. The bishop had sent a gift of tapers to the convent. On hearing this, Maria Benedetta said with deep emotion that she could see those very candles being used at the funeral of the giver. This prophecy is recorded to have been fulfilled two days later. the elevation of Pius III. to the papal chair was also one of the events she correctly foretold. Lastly, she was was credited with having warned the nation of the Messina earthquake. At her funeral were vast crowds of mourners, the number being estimated at 30,000.

Opportunities of interest to you. Read the Classified Opportunities column on last page.

GOLD ON CONDUIT ROAD

Miners at Work a Few Miles From National Capital.

Washington Post.

"Most persons in Washington, I presume, do not know that gold is being mined within fifteen miles of the United States capitol," remarked Edward E. Walton, a mining engineer of Arizona, who is at the Sterling. "It is a fact, nevertheless. They do not know, perhaps, that the Conduit road leading to Cabin John bridge and the Great Falls is literally paved with gold. But it's a fact.

"Some years ago there was considerable excitement among mining engineers over the discovery near Great Falls of gold ore that was almost pure gold. I saw myself a piece of 'wire ore' that could easily be held in one hand which ran nearly $5,000. There were numerous diggings made and gold was produced in quantities; but of course it was only a streak. The dumpings from some of these mines were used to repair the Conduit road, and for many years afterward when it rained, small pieces of gold could be picked up on that road. There is one old fellow who is still digging gold out near Great Falls, and he gets quite a little income from his mine.

"It is not impossible that some paying mines may be found out in that section, but it is not probable. I recall — for I was in Washington at the time—that the discovery of gold out that way caused property to go up but the 'fever' was of only short duration.

"Arizona is becoming one of the most important mining states in the west," added Mr. Walton. "The production of gold is comparatively small but each year it is increasing in its production of copper, lead and zinc."

More than 4,000,000 tons of ore a year are expected to be exported from iron mines in Algeria by French capitalists who have obtained concessions after more than ten years of effort.

Republic in the Czar's Domain

Neward News.

A YEAR ago a Russian traveler, Kasimir Veliki by name, during a journey through Siberia, accidentally stumbled on the village of Imansk, containing about 1,000 houses and many farms. The town lies about 300 miles from Vladivostok, but is not marked on any map.

Veiik was seized and made prisoner. By a stroke of luck, however, and after some exciting adventures, he escaped from the village, but before doing so he learned that the community claimed to be independent of both the czar and of the government of Pekin. Over a dirty inn floated a flag which resembled the Russian tricolor, but was embroidered with a bad copy of the Chinese dragon.

At Vladivostok, Veliki's story was at first not believed. Afterward a commission of inquiry was sent out, under an escort of 500 Cossacks, with three mounted guns. The commission occupied the town by surprise and turned to Vladivostok with a comp a journey through Siberia, ac- report. It discovered that the repu accidentally stumbled on the village of had been started first as a holy retr Imansk, containing about 1,000 houses for ascetics and that it afterwards and many farms. The town lies about into the hands of Russian and Chin 300 miles from Vladivostok, but is not convicts and prospered amazingly. marked on any map.

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The Russian commission, caref guarded by the 500 Cossacks, set it to examine the laws and econo state of the republic. They had opp tunities to see the law at work. Wh they entered the village a man w being hung up by heels for steali a horse, and not far off a na Chinese, who had been beaten to dea lay in the snow. Around its bo danced Imansk women, singing men ing songs. The punished Chinese, appears, had broken the local fish law.

The Imansk republic proved to ha a whole code of laws, which cannot traced to any Russian or other orig

Blessings in Disaster

GREAT conflagrations and disasters, terrible as they seem at the time of their occurrence, are not always wholly evil. The great Chicago fire aroused the "I Will" spirit which has made the city powerful and prosperous. A better, safer and cleaner San Francisco has arisen from the ruin that encompassed it only a few short years ago. Yet the greatest blessing ever inflicted by fire was the destruction of London by a conflagration 247 years ago, which began September 2 and raged with fury for several days, leaving 200,000 people homeless.

The Monument of London, long the loftiest structure of its kind in the world, was built in 1671 to commemorate the "Great Fire," which came as a blessing in disguise. For years the second of September was celebrated in London as the day of deliverance from the "Great Plague," which had threatened the extermination of the whole population of the city until the cleansing flames put an end to its ravages.

"This is the last of London," the horrified people cried as they fled before the great waves of fire which spread on the wings of a fierce wind over a city already stricken with death.

The plague, beginning late in 1624, claimed nearly 100,000 victims before the infection was destroyed by fire. The pestilence was favored by the unsanitary condition which then prevailed in London, as in all cities of that time. Dirt and filth, the allies of disease, prevailed in the mansions of the rich as well as in the hovels of the poor. The air was filled with bacteria, and the pestilence was the natural result. Death became so common as to excite no comment.

The fire began in a baker's house in Pudding Lane, and in the course of four days it destroyed 13,200 houses, 89 churches, the city gates, the royal exchange, Guildhall and the custom house. About 200,000 people encamped in Islington and Highgate fields. Coming after the desolation of the plague, the distress was extreme. A year passed before London recovered from the shock, and realized that the conflagration had been a blessing. The city was much improved in rebuilding, particularly by the use of stone and brick in place of wood as building materials.

The Ommeganck

Indianapolis News

THE tercentennial celebration of the Flemish Guild of Fencers was held last summer at Ghent. It is known as the Ommeganck. It concerns the procession and general festival of the guild, which was founded in 1613. The fencers or swordsmen once paraded annually, but during the disastrous wars in Old Flanders the custom was discontinued. Anything more romantically beautiful or better staged managed than the Ommeganck would be difficult to imagine. For hours previously the streets were thronged with men and women in the multicolored garments of the early years of the seventeenth century—not only burgesses and their wives, but nobles wearing the golden fleece and great ladies on horseback and dashing gallants in the splendid court dress of the holy Roman empire. The ancient castle of the counts of Flanders, perhaps the finest monument of a feudal stronghold yet to be seen in Europe, was again inhabited and garrisoned. The banner of Flanders was planted on the principal tower, and the standard of the holy Roman empire, with its quarterings of Burgundy and Valois, Hapsburg and the arms of Charles V. waved above the formidable gateway of the keep. Crossbowmen manned the walls and saluted as a gay company of archdukes and courtiers rode forth to take part in the procession.

Meanwhile the guild of swordsmen had been joined by other guilds and were gradually marshaled in their proper precedence, the cortege as it passed through the principal streets being divided into six groups. First came the guilds of butchers, fishmongers, bakers, smiths, shoemakers, armorers and others, and then the swordsmen, who were described as the "Confrerie des Escrimeurs (fencers) de St. Michel." These guilds were in splendid apparel, and were escorted by mounted soldiers with lances, and carried many gorgeous banners. The swordsmen were in attendance on their "king," a personage of high importance in days of yore during his year of office, to whom the court and city alike paid honor. There were several floats with historical groups and ancient carriages, and litters swung between horses and of great interest. The municipal division was most magnificent, and included many ladies in sumptuous garments. The group of archdukes and courtiers, with numerous ladies on horseback, positively glowed with splendor. The world had stepped back —it seemed the actual procession a mighty monarch, with all the g ter and adornment of the richest s and velvets and lace and plumes jewels.

A Stalk of Corn.

Amid the purlieus of the grim E Side,
Where beauty seems a thing t ne'er was born,
Upon a balcony rears, in banner pride,
A slender stalk of corn.

Alien to every sight and every sou Its leaves beneath the transient no glow bright,
And the white stars, upon their pu tual round,
Touch it with tender light.

Visions of youth and hope, of the hills,
Of home where a lone wanderer born;
Ah, what a boon amid life's gri and ills,
This slender stalk of corn!
—Clinton Scollard.

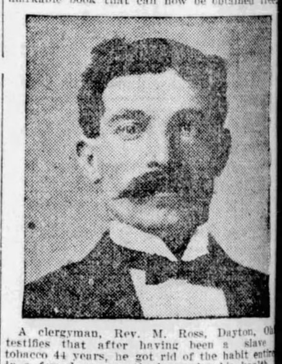
First Gas-Lit Street

THE first street to be illuminat by gas was Golden Lane, London, where the new met od of lighting was first used Aug. 1807. Pall Mall was lighted by g in 1809, and between 1813 and 1 the system was installed throughou London. Gas-lighting was introduc in New York in 1823, and in Pa in 1819. The first experiments wi illuminating gas were made in 17 by Mr. Murdoch in Cornwall, En land. In 1803 the Lyceum theatre London was lighted with gas, and the following year a Manchester m adopted the system. The cost of luminating gas continued high un kerosene and electricity forced gradual reduction. In 1860 the pr per thousand cubic feet ranged fr $1.50 in Pittsburg to $7. Philadelph had the lowest rate of any big c except Pittsburg, $2.15. In New Yo and Boston the rate was $2.50, a a $3.50 rate prevailed in Chicago, Louis, Detroit and Milwaukee.

Smoked Cigarette For 22 Years

Habit Was Ruining Him But He Conquered It in Three Days, Easily.

The portrait below is that of Mr. P. J. Ellgaray, a well known citizen of Livingston, Montana, who knew that his life was being ruined through the pernicious habit of cigarette smoking, yet could not find anything to stop it and solace the nervous craving until he got the remarkable book that can now be obtained free.



A clergyman, Rev. M. Ross, Dayton, O testifies that after having been a slave tobacco 44 years, he got rid of the habit entir in a few days, greatly improving his health.

QUIT TOBACCO, GAINED 35 POUND

Everybody in Mangum, Okla., is talking about the big change in Al Reeves; he put on 30 lbs. healthy flesh since getting rid of tobacco habit through the information gained in the free bo which you may also easily obtain.

That he could never quit was the fear George Anebush, Pearl street, Philadelphia, was a slave of tobacco for many years, but after getting the book, he learned how the habit co be conquered in three days. Now he writes that he is forever free from the craving and is much improved health.

BOOK GIVEN FREE.

A valuable, interesting book on how to o come the tobacco habit (in any form) has been written by Edw. J. Woods, 534 Sixth Ave., S New York, N. Y., and he will send it free to a one who writes asking for it, as he is very anxious that all who are victims of the craving tobacco, snuff, cigars, or cigarettes may free themselves easily, quickly, gently and lastingly. Eyes, heart, kidneys and stomach improve, nerves tranquilized, memory improved, vigor gained and numerous other benefits often reported.

HEART DISEASE. $2.50 TRIAL FREE

Dr. Miles, the great specialist, will give a pound Special Person Treatment to those having Enlarged, Valvular Rheumatic, Dropsy, Weak, Fatty or Nervous Hearts; Short Breath, Palpitation, Smothering, Irregular Pulse, Pain, Swollen Ankles, etc. Wonderful success. Many, so-called "incurable" cured after 3 to 15 doctors failed. 30 years' experience, 50 assistants. Write now for Free Trial, Book and Remarkable Cures from your state. Address DR. FRANKLIN MILES, Dept. HE, 603 to 613 Main Street, Elkhart, Indiana.

COLD IN HEAD CATARRH

INSTANTLY RELIEVED BY THE OLD
DR. MARSHALL'S CATARRH SNUFF
25¢ AT ALL DRUG STORES OR SENT PREPAID BY C. H. KEITH & CO. CLEVELAND OHIO

ECZEMA CAN BE CURED Free Trial Proves It

TREATING HALF A MILLION cases has proven to me that eczema is curable, that it can be cured to stay cured. This dreadful disease is known by many names, Tetter, Salt Rheum, Scall, Pruritus, Milk Crusts, Chaps, Weeping Skin, etc., but they are all related forms. I do not care who or what has failed to cure you. Because I know what I can do. I offer free proof. Send for my book and trial treatment, both free. You will learn what real comfort and relief are. My 148 page book will show you photographs that prove what I have done for some of the most terrible cases. Remember neglect is costly and eczema has many forms and stages. I can give you names of thousands I have treated. I can give you references beyond question. All this you will see when you get my book. Write to me telling me about your case. You will get a frank, honest reply. This is the time to do it—why delay and suffer longer? Write to me now. Dr. J. E. Cannaday, 702A Street, Sedalia, Mo. References, Third National Bank.

CONVENTION FOR G. O. P. IS LIKELY

Three Factions Forming as Republican National Committee Meets.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 15.—Efforts to revive the old Republican organization and squirt into it an elixir started by Progressive Republicans is foredoomed to fail, for the reorganizers who now are thronging Washington are for the most part the men who assisted Taft in the work at Chicago last year. They will dominate the situation. And if they do, the Cummins, Borah, Bristow and Hadley men cannot remain.

In the gathering and active are former Senator Heminway, of Indiana; Joe Keating, James E. Watson, and Goodrich. These men want the "harmony" convention taken to Indianapolis next year. There they would mould it to their own purposes. Their activities at Chicago is familiar history. In addition, Barnes, of New York; Penrose, of Pennsylvania, and Crane, of Massachusetts, are in evidence.

It is the "Old Guard" in the midst of a reunion and the Progressives who called the meeting are steeped in gloom as they see the finish of their efforts to put new wine into old bottles.

Forces Lining Up.

Such members of the Republican national committee as had arrived here today indicated almost an even division of sentiment on the questions of party organized which are to be taken up in conferences beginning tomorrow.

The forces opposed to an extraordinary convention were lining up against the proposed reduction in southern representation. Some committeemen regarded it as probable that before the actual work of the committee begins tomorrow there will be three divisions of opinion. In the first will be found the national committeemen who favor the calling of a convention immediately; in the second will be those who are opposed to any convention at all and in the third will be others who are willing to have a national convention but who do not see any pressing need for it.

Odds Favor Convention.

The first and third groups are expected to join against the second and the odds are said to be in favor of a convention. According to predictions of Chairman Hilles, the convention probably will thresh out its differences in open session and the advocates of all proposals will have an opportunity to give their arguments in public.

In addition to the members of the committee who expect to speak, Ormsby McHarg has asked for hearing. Mr. McHarg is understood to have prepared a brief against the right of the national committee to call an extraordinary convention.

Chairman Hilles said today that he was not attempting to use the power of his position for either contention, and holds to the view that it is a question to be settled by a majority of the committee.

Guests of Hilles at Dinner.

Informal conferences between committeemen marked the day, but the real work will begin tonight when the entire committee will be guests at dinner of Chairman Hilles. All factions are expected to have a clearer understanding of the situation when it is over.

TWICE CALLED DEAD, HE LIVES

New York, Dec. 13.—Edward W. Hooker, Connecticut state senator, and former mayor of Hartford, who sailed today for Bermuda, has twice been pronounced dead, but he was very much alive today in discussing his experiences.

He has been told by physicians that his case is one of the most remarkable in the annals of pathology. His heart recently distended itself to ten inches in width, as compared with four inches, which is the width of an average person's heart. When this dilation occurred for the first time a year ago Mr. Hooker became unconscious and was thought to be dead. Twice he was revived by artificial respiration. He was told by a physician that the wall of his heart was almost as thin as an ordinary piece of paper and the fact that it had not broken was a marvel of good fortune.

It is said that persons are not known to have lived after their hearts had been widened to more than seven inches. Mr. Hooker's heart is now reduced to one-half more than its normal size and its walls are slowly resuming their normal thickness, but he is still in such a condition that he cannot travel by rail. During the last year he has lost in weight from 250 to less than 150 pounds. He attributes his ailment to over exercise, it having been his habit to take long tramps in the woods and mountains.

Mr. Hooker is a third descendant of Joseph Hooker, the founder of Hartford.

CONVULSIONS

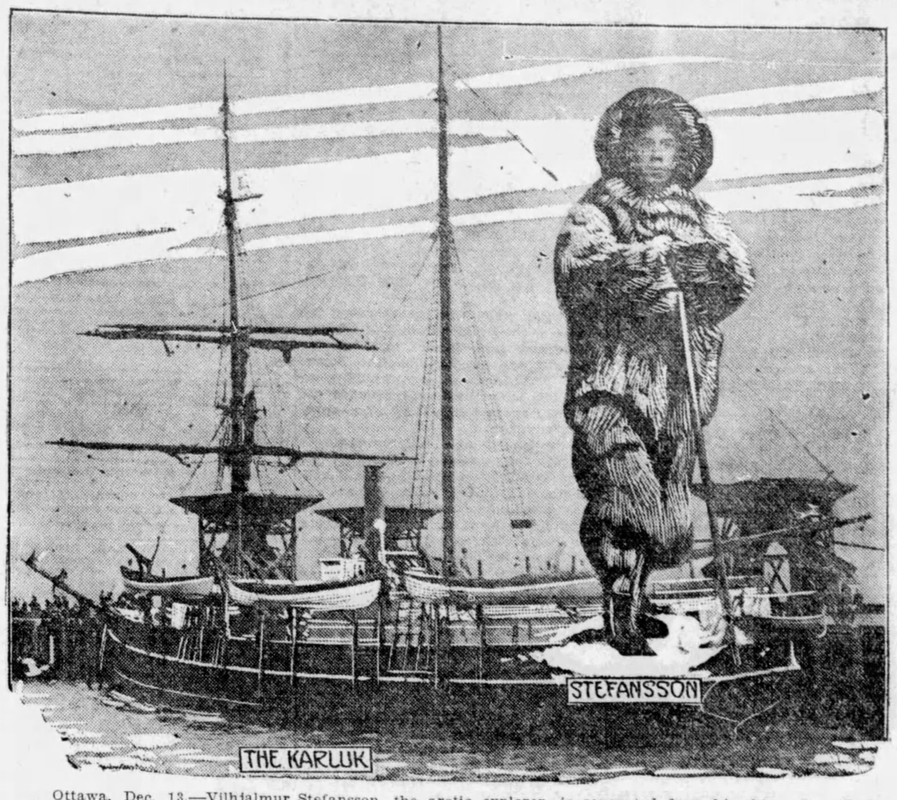
Convulsions, nervous falling spells and spasms promptly relieved by my special treatment. Testimonials on file from cases afflicted since childhood, in which my remedies were successful. Enclose this in your letter for Free Trial Bottle. I pay expressage. Give age and full particulars. Dr. F. Harvey Roof, Dept. 936 Station N, New York, N. Y.

QUICK RELIEF FOR **ASTHMA** Sent by Parcel Post. FRANK WHETZEL, M. D. Dept. S, Whetzel Bldg., 326 N. Crawford Ave., Chicago. Enough of my new ASTHMA Powder to last an average case about 3 months for $1.00.

Cured His Rupture

I was badly ruptured while lifting a trunk several years ago. Doctors said my only hope of cure was an operation. Trusses did me no good. Finally I got hold of something that quickly and completely cured me. Years have passed and the rupture has never returned although I am doing hard work as a carpenter. There was no operation, no lost time, no trouble. I have nothing to sell but will give full information about how you may find a complete cure without operation if you write to me, Eugene M. Pullen, Carpenter, 806 Marcellus Avenue, Manasquan, N. J. Better cut out this notice and show it to any others who are ruptured—you may save a life or at least stop the misery of rupture and the worry and danger of an operation

DARING ARCTIC EXPLORER AND STEAMER THAT IS LOST TO HIM WITH 25 MEN



Ottawa, Dec. 13.—Vilhjalmur Stefansson, the arctic explorer, is separated from his ship, the Karluk, which drifted away while the leader of the expedition and a small party were ashore on a hunting trip in September last, according to a letter received here from the explorer himself.

The letter, which was sent from Point Barrow, Alaska, to Circle and thence dispatched on Dec. 5, is dated Oct. 30 and addressed to George Desbarats, acting minister of marine. It confirms the fears felt here that a mishap had befallen the expedition when it was learned last month that nothing had been seen of the ship since August and terrific gales in the Arctic circle were reported about that time.

Stefansson reports that he has made many attempts to find the Karluk, aboard which are 25 members of his party, but up to the time of his letter he was unsuccessful. The men ashore with the leader of the expedition are Dr. D. Jennes, of Wellington, New Zealand; Burt M. Williams, of Montreal, and B. M. McConnell, of Los Angeles, Cal. The Karluk has plenty of provisions, and no fear is felt for the safety of those aboard.

ITALY INTERESTED IN THE BIG CANAL

U. S. Work Is Worthy of the Ancient Roman Experts They Say.

Rome, Dec. 13.—Italy is following with the greatest interest everything connected with the Panama Canal, which is considered a work worthy of the ancient Romans.

The opening of the canal will affect Italy, above all, in its principal exportation, namely emigrants. In Colombia, Equador, Peru, Bolivia and Chili, new fields of activity will be found for them, and, furthermore, the emigration to the western coast of Mexico, the United States and Canada will be increased. Already several Italian lines are preparing lines of navigation. Also, it is calculated that once the means of transportation is facilitated, Italian exports to South America will be at least doubled, while those for the western coast of Mexico, the United States and Canada will increase greatly.

In the Suez.

When the Suez Canal was finished, Italian emigration was very limited and did not reach 100,000 a year, but between 1876 and 1886 the annual average had become 135,000. Between 1886 and 1900 that number was doubled, and from 1900 it has reached an average of 600,000, while in 1906, the highest year on record, the emigrants were 787,977. In 1912 they were 708,669, and this year they may surpass in numbers those of 1906.

An average of half this emigration goes across the Atlantic—the greater part being absorbed by the United States. This trans-oceanic tide in 1906 numbered 440,338, of whom 310,976 went to America, 114,818 to Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay, and only 13,145 to Brazil, as emigration there was prohibited by the Italian government. What remains, merely 1,399, went to other countries of the American continent. The same proportion as that of the record year, 1906, occurs in other years, so that in 1912, out of 312,210 trans-oceanic emigrants, 208,447 went to the United States, 59,308 to the River Platte, 23,488 to Brazil and the remainder, 1,568, to other countries.

Trade and Rags.

A study of Italian emigration is interesting and necessary in order to follow the development and direction of Italian commerce, as the commerce of Italy, as a rule, has followed the poor emigrants, so the saying that "trade follows the flag," can be modified for Italy as "trade follows the rags" of her migratory sons. For two years the figures of Italian imports and exports have surpassed $1,200,000,000. The foreign office here, at the end of 1911 published statistics showing that the Italian imports and exports had so increased as to surpass proportionately the increase of any other country.

Putting at 100 the imports and exports of each country in 1898, it was calculated that at the end of 1910 hat percentage had risen as follows:

Imports—		Exports—	
Italy	243	United States	226
Belgium	237	Italy	224
Germany	207	Germany	224
Imports—		Exports—	
United States	190	Belgium	204
England	162	England	165
France	152	France	161

Therefore, Italy surpassed all other leading countries, with the exception of the United States, which in exports only was 2 per cent higher. This wonderful increase will be augmented with the opening of the new waterway.

Figures will demonstrate this better than words. Italian exports to the United States are $50,000,000, equal to 12.4 per cent of her total exports, an amount which is surpassed only by Germany and Switzerland where the Italian exportation is respectively 14.7 and 13.1 per cent. In the same way the American importation into Italy is 12.7 per cent of the total imports, being surpassed only by Germany with 16.9 and by Great Britain with 16.1.

To the Argentine.

Italian exportation to the Argentine is $31,000,000 yearly, equal to 7.7 per cent; to Brazil, $5,200,000, or 13 per cent; to Canada, $2,736,000 or 0.7½ per cent; to Uruguay, $2,600,000 or 0.7 per cent; to Central America, $1,211,000 or 0.4 per cent; to Mexico, $920,000, or 0.2 per cent. Notwithstanding the difficulties, before the opening of the Panama canal, of reaching the coasts of the American continent to the Pacific, the Italian exportation to Chili averages between $3,000,000 and $4,000,000, or about 1 per cent of the whole exportation; to Peru, $1,400,000, or 0.5 per cent, and to the other smaller American countries, $3,000,000 or 0.8 per cent.

Many of the foregoing official figures are below the actual as a large amount of products is introduced into the markets of the American continent as belonging to other countries, for instance, silk appearing to come from Lyons, cotton goods sold as English, etc. Likewise, a number of American mechanical products enter Italy as coming from Germany or France, and American shoes as originating from England. Italy is now importing nearly one and a half million pairs of shoes from abroad.

SCHMIDT WANTED TO WED

Doctor Says Murderer Was in Love With Girl.

New York, Dec. 12.—Before swearing the state alienists who were expected to testify in the trial of Hans Schmidt, charged with the murder of Anna Aumuller last September, Assistant District Attorney Stephenson called as a witness today Dr. Arnold Leo of this city. Dr. Leo testified that Shcmidt and the Aumuller girl came to him last April and expressed their intention of being married.

"Schmidt told me he was very much in love with the girl," testified the doctor, "and said he was going to give up the priesthood and marry her.

"On September 4, two days after the murder, he called at my office, exhibited a V-shaped wound on the index finger of his right hand and asked that it be treated. He said he had an accident."

WOULD PAY HUBBY TO LEAVE

New York Woman, Wed 15 Years, Offers to Give Spouse Alimony.

New York, Dec. 13.—For the first time, so far as known here, a wife has filed a petition for separation offering to pay her husband alimony if he will only stay away. Mrs. Eloise Wynne of Greenwood avenue, Far Rockaway, aged 45, who has been married 15 years, promises to pay her husband, aged 60, $10 a week while she lives, and in the event of death to make a provision in her will giving him $100 a month.

CRY AGAINST THE INCOME TAX LAW

Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce Would Have Part Suspended.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 12.—The Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce has started a movement for a nation-wide appeal to congress to suspend or modify the provisions of the income tax law providing deduction of the tax at the source and the substitution of methods enabling the government to obtain at the source, information for enforcing correct returns from taxpayers. More than 1,000 letters, containing a copy of a memorial recently adopted by the chamber, were sent to many cities yesterday advocating the change and soliciting co-operation.

The memorial declared that the law "has been made unnecessarily obnoxious by unreasonable and impracticable requirements for deduction at the source" and that the enforcement of its requirements "will have disastrous results to American securities entailing losses which will probably run into hundreds of millions of dollars through the demoralization of the foreign market for American bonds." The memorial further declares that the requirements for deduction at the source are impracticable; that the law is unjust and that it is bewildering in its complexities.

A special committee has been appointed by the chamber to make plans for obtaining concerted action on the part of the commercial organizations throughout the country. The committee, as its first step, placed the memorial before the directors of the chamber of commerce of the United States and urged the directors to take immediate action in favor of the campaign begun by the local organization.

WOULD RESTORE WORLD'S GRANARY

Turks Are Putting in Great Work of Irrigation in Mesopotamia.

London, Dec. 11.—The first step in the work of restoring the prosperity of Mesopotamia, once the granary of the world, by means of irrigation is described in a Constantinople despatch to the London Daily Mail. Sir William Wilcocks, who designed the works for the Turkish government, often asserted that the garden of Eden once flourished in the district between Babylon and Bagdad.

A Navigable Lock.

The formal opening of the Euphrates barrage takes place on Friday. The barrage, which is at Hindia, about 47 miles north of Bagdad, is the first completed part of the extensive irrigation works undertaken by the young Turk government for the improvement of Mesopotamia. The construction was intrusted in February, 1911, to Sir John Jackson. The barrage consists of masonry piers with 36 openings fitted with sluices to hold the water to the desired level. There is also a navigation lock for barge traffic.

Below the main barrage is a subsidiary one constructed with a lock of the same size. The water level can be raised to 16½ feet, enabling an extensive area of rich land to be irrigated.

Up-stream the ancient Hilla channel, leading to Hilla and Babylon has been cleared for a distance of 50 miles. This allows the utilization of the water of this area also.

A Second Egypt.

Further works still remain to complete the scheme of converting the country into a second Egypt and restoring the ancient granary to the empire. Notable among the uncompleted works is the Haabania escape which will allow the surplus floods to flow into an adjacent lake, thence to a large natural depression, thus avoiding the submersion of the area between the Euphrates and Bagdad.

BUTTE WOMEN IN BRAWL

Suffragists Get to Court After Fight Over Gavel.

Butte, Mont., Dec. 10.—"For God's sake, women, quit your fighting and go back to your meetings and try to act like loving sisters," Police Judge Thomas Booher told several woman suffragists, who were on trial before him yesterday on a charge of disturbing the peace when the two factions clashed in an assembly hall and the police were called in. The women engaged in a hand-to-hand contest over the possession of the gavel.

Judge Booher dismissed the cases, telling the defendants that it would be useless so far as any good to the community were concerned to fine them and that he was "thunderstruck that educated and refined women of Butte cannot meet in social sessions without fighting."

449 COAL MINERS DIE IN OCT.

More Than Twice as Many as in October, 1912.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Coal mine accidents in the United States in October resulted in the death of 449 men, according to reports from state mine inspectors to the United States bureau of mines. This is a considerable increase over October, 1912, when the fatalities were 203, but this year there was one explosion at Dawson, N. M., that resulted fatally to 263 miners.

During the first 10 months of this year the fatalities were 2,292 as compared with 2,088 last year. From the 1912 figures, however, there must be deducted the fatalities that occurred in the three states that have no inspection service.

ROOT GIVEN NOBEL PRIZE

Henri LaFontaine, of Belgium, Also Honored

Christiana, Norway, Dec. 10.—The Nobel peace prize for 1912 was conferred today on Senator Elihu Root of New York and that for 1913 on Senator Henri La Fontaine of Brussels, Belgium, who was formerly president of the permanent international peace bureau of Berne, Switzerland.

WHEAT BREAKS ALL RECORDS

Nine Billions of Wealth Taken From U. S. Soil in 1913.

Washintgon, Dec. 15.—Final estimates of production and value of 14 of the important crops which form a part of the enormous grand total, aggregating approximately $9,000,000,000 of wealth produced on farms through the soil and farmers' live stock during 1913, were announced today by the crop reporting board, bureau of statistics, department of agriculture. The figures are the official government estimates of acreage, production and value, based on prices paid to farmers on December 1. These 14 crops are only a portion of the production of the soil which approximates $6,000,000,000 in value each year. The total value of the animal products of the farm is estimated at about $3,000,000,000 annually.

"The production of crops in the United States in 1913 was materially below the average," the secretary of agriculture, David F. Houston, announces, "the yield per acre of all crops combined being smaller than in any year of the past decade, with the exception of 1911. This shortage was caused by a severe drought, accompanied by excessive heat during the summer months, in an important portion of the agricultural district of the United States, and particularly in Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri and adjacent states.

"Inasmuch as crop production of 1912 was unusually large, a greater proportion than usual has been carried into the present crop year, which should mitigate somewhat the effects of the shortage of this year's crops.

"The corn crop, the most valuable farm product of this country, is smaller than any crop since 1903. Wheat production is the largest ever recorded in this country. The crop was practically matured before the drought became effective. The oat crop is the third largest of our history."

Here Are Figures.

The final estimates of today, with comparisons for 1912 and 1911, follow:

Corn—Area harvested, 105,820,000 acres, compared with 107,083,000 acres last year, and 105,825,000 acres in 1911. Acre yield, 16.5 bushels, compared with 29.2 bushels last year and 23.9 bushels in 1911. Production, 2,446,988,000 bushels, compared with 3,124,746,000 bushels last year and 2,531,488,000 bushels in 1911. Farm value, December 1, per bushel, 69.1 cents, compared with 48.7 cents last year and 61.8 cents in 1911. Total value of the crop, $433,995,000, compared with $1,520,454,000 last year and $1,565,258,000 in 1911.

Winter wheat—Area harvested, 31,699,000 acres, compared with 26,571,000 acres last year and 29,162,000 acres in 1911. Acre yield, 16.5 bushels, compared with 15.1 bushels last year and 14.8 bushels in 1911. Total production, 523,561,000 bushels, compared with 399,919,000 bushels last year and 430,656,000 bushels in 1911. Farm value December 1, per bushel, 82.9 cents, compared with 80.9 cents last year and 88 cents in 1911. Total value of crop, $433,995,000, compared with $323,572,000 last year and $379,151,000 in 1911.

Spring wheat—Area harvested 18,485,000 acres, compared with 19,243,000 acres last year and 29,162,000 acres in 1911. Acre yield 13.0 bushels, compared with 17.2 bushels last year, and 9.4 bushels in 1911. Total production, 239,819,000 bushels, compared with 330,348,000 bushels last year and 190,682,000 bushels in 1911. Farm value, December 1, per bushel, 73.4 cents, compared with 70.1 cents last year and 96 cents in 1911. Total value of crop $176,127,000, compared with $231,708,000 last year and $163,912,000 in 1911.

All wheat—Area harvested, 50,184,000 acres, compared with 45,814,000 acres last year and 49,543,000 acres in 1911. Acre yield, 15.2 bushels, compared with 15.9 bushels last year and 12.5 bushels in 1911. Total production, 763,380,000 bushels, compared with 730,267,000 bushels last year and 621,338,000 bushels in 1911. Farm value, December 1, per bushel, 79.9 cents, compared with 76 cents last year and 87.4 cents in 1911. Total value of crop, $610,124,000, compared with $555,280,000 last year and $543,063,000 in 1911.

Oats—Area harvested 38,399,000 acres, compared with 37,917,000 acres last year and 37,763,000 acres in 1911. Acre yield, 29.2 bushels, compared with 37.4 bushels last year and 24.4 bushels in 1911. Total production, 1,121,768,000 bushels, compared with 1,418,337,000 bushels last year and 922,298,000 bushels in 1911. Farm value December 1, per bushel, 39.2 cents, compared with 31.9 cents last year and 45.0 cents in 1911. Total value of crop, $439,596,000, compared with $452,469,000 last year and $414,663,000 in 1911.

Barley — Area harvested, 7,499,000 acres, compared with 7,530,000 acres last year, and 7,627,000 acres in 1911. Acre yield, 23.8 bushels, compared with 27.9 bushels last year, and 22.0 bushels in 1911. Total production, 178,189,000 bushels, compared with 223,824,000 bushels last year and 160,240,000 in 1911. Farm value, December 1, per bushel, 53.7 cents, compared with 50.5 cents last year, and 86.9 cents in 1911 Total value of crop $95,731,000, compared with $112,957,000 last year, and $139,182,000 in 1911.

Rye—Area harvested, 2,557,000 acres, compared with 2,117,000 acres last year and 2,127,000 acres in 1911. Acre yield, 16.2 bushels, compared with 16.8 bushels last year and 15.6 bushels in 1911. Total production, 41,381,000 bushels, compared with 35,564,000 bushels last year, and 33,119,999 bushels in 1911. Farm value, December 1, per bushel, 63.4 cents, compared with 66.3 cents last year, and 83.2 cents in 1911. Total value of crop, $26,220,000, compared with $23,636,000 last year, and $27,557,000 in 1911.

Buckwheat—Area harvested, 805,000 acres, compared with 841,000 acres last year, and 833,000 acres in 1911. Acre yield, 17.2 bushels, compared with 22.9 bushels last year, and 21.1 bushels in 1911. Total production, 13,833,000 bushels, compared with 19,249,000 bushels last year, and 17,549,000 bushels in 1911. Farm value, December 1, per bushels, 75.5 cents, compared with 66.1 cents last year and 72.6 cents in 1911. Total value of crop, $10,445,000, compared with $12,720,000 last year, and $12,735,000 in 1911.

Flaxseed—Area harvested, 2,291,000 acres, compared with 2,851,000 acres last year, and 2,757,000 acres in 1911. Acre yield, 7.8 bushels, compared with 9.8 bushe's last year and 7.0 bushels in 1911. Total production, 17,853,000 bushels, compared with 28,073,000 bushels last year, and 19,370,000 bushels in 1911. Farm value, December 1, per bushel, $1.20, compared with $1.15 last year, and $1.82 in 1911. Total value of crop, $21,399,000, compared with $32,202,000 last year, and $35,272,000 in 1911.

Rice—Area harvested, 827,000 acres, compared with 722,800 acres last year and 696,300 acres in 19111. Acre yield, 31.1 bushels, compared with 34.7 bushels last year, and 32.9 bushels in 1911. Total production, 25,744,000 bushels, compared with 25,054,000 bushels last year and 22,931,000 bushels in 1911. Farm value, December 1, per bushel, 85.3 cents, compared with 93.5 cents last year and 79.7 cents in 1911. Total value of crop, $22,090,000; $23,423,000 last year, and $18,274,000 in 1911.

Potatoes—Area harvested, 3,668,000 acres, compared with 3,711,000 acres last year and 3,619,000 acres in 1911. Acre yield, 90.4 bushels, compared with 113.4 bushels last year and 80.9 bushels in 1911. Total production, 331,525,000 bushels, compared with 420,647,000 bushels last year and 292,737,000 bushels in 1911. Farm value, December 1, per bushel, 68.7 cents, compared with 50.5 cents last year and 79.9 cents in 1911. Total value of crop, $227,903,000, compared with $212,550,000 last year and $233,778,000 in 1911.

Sweet Potatoes—Area harvested, 625,000 acres, compared with 588,000 acres last year and 605,000 acres in 1911. Acre yield, 94.5 bushels, compared with 95.2 bushels last year and 90.1 bushels in 1911. Total production, 59,057,000 bushels, compared with 55,479,000 bushels last year and 54,538,000 bushels in 1911. Farm value, December 1, per bushel, 72.6 cents, compared with 72.6 cents last year and 75.5 cents in 1911. Total value of crop, $42,884,000, compared with $40,264,000 last year and $41,202,000 in 1911.

Hay—Area harvested, 48,954,000 acres, compared with 49,530,000 acres last year and 48,240,000 acres in 1911. Acre yield, 1.31 tons, compared with 1.47 tons last year and 1.14 tons in 1911. Total production, 64,116,000 tons, compared with 72,691,000 tons last year and 54,916,000 tons in 1911. Farm value, December 1, per ton, $12.42, compared with $11.79 last year and $14.29 in 1911. Total value of crop, $797,077,000, compared with $856,695,000 last year and $784,926,000 in 1911.

Cotton—Area harvested, 36,012 acres, compared with 34,283,000 acres last year and 36,045,000 acres in 1911. Acre yield 181.9 pounds, compared with 190.9 pounds last year and 207.7 pounds in 1911. Total production, 13,677,000 running bales, compared with 13,703,000 running bales last year and 15,693,000 running bales in 1911. Farm value, December 1, per pound, 12.2 cents, compared with 11.9 cents last year and 8.8 cents in 1911. Total value of crop (exclusive of linters and seed), $797,841,000, compared with $780,224,000 last year and $660,566,000 in 1911.

Sugar Beets—Area harvested, 577,000 acres, compared with 555,000 acres last year and 474,000 acres in 1911. Acre yield, 10.11 tons, compared with 9.41 tons last year and 10.68 tons in 1911. Total production, 5,834,000 tons, compared with 5,224,000 tons last year and 5,062,000 tons in 1911. Farm value, December 1, per ton, $5.90, compared with $5.82 last year and $5.50 in 1911.. Total value of crop, 34,420,000, compared with $30,406,000 last year and $27,843,000 in 1911.

TERN IS FASTEST FLYER

Salt Water Bird Eclipses Best Homing Pigeons.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 17.—Scientists of the Johns Hopkins University have discovered a salt water bird, known as the ill-tern, which in flight has eclipsed all records established by homing pigeons. These experiments have been conducted by Dr. John B. Watson, director of the psychological laboratory, in the interests of the Carnegie Institute.

Bird Island, one of the Dry Tortugas group, was selected as the place of observation for the reason that the terns flock there and because it lies in the ocean 85 miles from Key West and 90 miles from Havana. The tern is a tropical bird, and about April 25 they leave their tropical home and flock to Bird Island, where they build their nests, lay their eggs and then sit placidly by and allow themselves to be captured.

The scientists after capturing them mark them with oil paint and tag their nests. Then they send the birds on a yacht to Key West and thence by steamship to Galveston and Cape Hatteras. At those places they are released and immediately fly back to their nests, on a little sand mound in the ocean.

These wonderful performances are puzzling the scientists. A homing pigeon will not fly over water for more than 350 miles. The distance from Hatteras to Bird Island is 1,100 miles, and they get back there quicker than any record ever established by homing pigeons over a shorter course after they have been trained many times over the ground which they were to traverse. The tern flies a foot above the water, while the homing pigeon flies at a great height, whereby it may be able to direct its course. Just how the tern is able to reach its destination is more than science has been able to solve.

MAN BEST FOOD FOR MAN?

Doctor Says We Do Poorly Because We Aren't Cannibals.

Paris, Dec. 10.—Ideal food for man is—man, according to Dr. Hugonencq, leading physician on faculty of Lyons University.

He declares long research as to the rational food for mankind, that we suffer from ills of indigestion and kindred troubles because we are not cannibals. Dining off roast beef and lunching on pork and veal chops, is nothing short of barbarism, he says.

"It is human flesh alone," he writes in his recent pamphlet, "that reduces to a minimum labors of the digestive apparatus. Cannibalism, or anthropophagy, is the last word of science and hygiene."

He does not vouchsafe information as to the manner in which he made his startling discvery.

250 NATIVES BLOWN TO SEA

Canoes Are Carried Away From West African Coast.

Freetown, Sierra Leon, West Africa, Dec. 11.—Over 250 natives perished today when a terrific tornado blew 20 canoes with some 400 natives on board out to sea. The cable ship Sentinel rescued 136 of them, but no trace of the remainder was found.

The storm swept the town and port and did much damage.

THE MARKETS

Toledo, Dec. 15.—There was a further decline in prices of wheat here today. Trade was inactive, due to the expectation of the government final crop report at the close of the market. Liverpool opened unchanged and the market was featureless. Reports from Argentina were that drizzling rains were falling and the weather was cold, which is interfering with the harvesting of the new crop. World's shipments showed a loss of more than 1,000,000 bushels. Cash and December wheat each opened ¼c to 99¾c. May wheat was off a like amount to $1.05.

An increased demand developed after the opening and prices strengthened perceptibly. The close was slightly higher.

				Close	
Wheat—Open.	High.	Low.	Dec. 15.	Dec. 13.
Cash	99¾	1.00	99	1.00	1.00
Dec.	99¾	1.00	99	1.00	1.00
May	1.05	1.05½	1.04¾	1.05¼	1.05¾
Corn—					
Cash				70	70¾
Dec.	70¼	70¼	69¾	70¼	70¾
May	71¼	71¼	71	71¼	71
July	70¾	71	70¾	71	70¾
Oats—					
Cash				42	42¾
Dec.	42¾	42¾	41¾	42	42½
May	44¾	44¾	44½	44¾	44¾
July	43			43	43
Clover Seed—					
Prime				9.40	9.45
Dec.	9.40			9.40	9.45
Jan.	9.42½			9.45	9.47½
Feb.	9.45			9.47½	9.50
March	9.42½	9.45	9.42½	9.45	9.47½
Rye—					
No. 2				66	66
Alsike—					
Prime				11.10	11.40
Dec.	11.10			11.10	11.40
March	11.20			11.20	11.50
Timothy—					
Old				2.52½	2.52½
New				2.55	2.55
Dec.	2.55			2.55	2.55
Feb.	2.65			2.65	2.65
March	2.67½				2.67½

CHICAGO.

Wheat—					
Dec	80	89⅝	88⅜	89¼	89¼
May	91¾	92⅜	91⅝	92¼	92
July	88¾	89¼	88½	89¼	88⅞
Corn—					
Dec.	69⅜	69⅝	69	69⅛	69⅝
May	69⅛	69⅝	69¼	69⅝	69⅝
July	68⅜	69⅛	68½	69⅛	68⅞
Oats—					
Dec.	38⅞	39	38⅜	39	39¼
May	41⅜	41⅞	41¼	41⅞	41⅞
July	40¾	41	40½	41	41

CHICAGO PROVISIONS.

Pork—					
Jan.	20.70	20.72	20.70	20.70	20.90
May	20.90	20.90	20.77	20.85	20.95
Lard—					
Jan.	10.72	10.72	10.62	10.70	10.72
May	11.02	11.02	10.95	11.02	11.05
Ribs—					
Jan.	10.87	10.87	10.80	10.82	10.90
May	11.07	11.10	11.02	11.07	11.15

MINNEAPOLIS.

Wheat—					
Dec.				84¾	84¼
May				87¾	88¼

DULUTH.

Wheat—					
Dec.				84¼	84¼
May				88⅝	87⅝

New York Produce.

New York, Dec. 15.—Flour, quiet; spring patents, $4.45@4.60; winter straights, $4.15@4.25; winter patents, $4.40@4.65; spring clears, $4.00@4.20; extra No. 1 winter, $3.55@3.75; extra No. 2 winter, $3.35@3.50; Kansas straights, $4.05@4.15. Disappointing cables and continued liberal northwest receipts caused a slight decline in wheat this morning; May, 98⅞@99c. Pork steady; mess, $23.25@23.75; family, $26.00@27.00; clears, $20.25@22.00. Beef, quiet; mess, $18.00@18.50; family, $19.00@20.00. Lard, steady. Petroleum, steady; refined New York bulk, $5.25; bbls., $8.75; cases, $11.25 Molasses, steady; New Orleans, open kettle, $3.50@3.55. Hay, quiet; standard, $1.00; No. 1, $1.02½@1.05; No. 2, 90@95c; No. 3, 80@85c. Hides, steady; Bogota, 25@30c; Central American, 29½c. Leather, firm; hemlock, firsts, 29@30c; seconds, 28@29c. Raw sugar, nominal; Muscovado, 2.88c; centrifugal, 3.39c; molasses, 3.04c; refined, quiet; cut loaf, 5.30c; crushed, 5.20c; mould A, 4.85c; cubes, 4.90c; XXXX powdered, 4.40c; powdered, 4.35c; fine granulated, 4.25c; diamond A, 4.25c; confectioners A, 4.15c; No. 1, 4.15c.

Butter, firm; receipts 4,100 tubs; creamery, extras, 36@37c; firsts, 28@34c; seconds, 23½@27c; held, extras, 32@33c; firsts, 27½@31c; seconds, 23@26½c; process, extras, 24½@25c; factory, ucrrent make, firsts, 21@21½c; seconds, 19½@20c; packing stock, current make, No. 2, 19@19½c. Cheese, firm; receipts, 1,400 boxes; state, whole milk, held, specials, 16¾c; average fancy, 16¼@16¼c; fresh specials, 16c; do. average fancy, 15½@15¾c; Wisconsin, whole milk, daisies, held, 16@16½c; fresh, 16c; twins and flats, held, 16@16¼c; skims, 2@13½c. Eggs, irregular; receipts, 4,300 cases; fresh gathered, extras, 39@40c; extra firsts, 37@38c; firsts, 35@36c; seconds, 31@34c; refrigerator, special marks, fancy, 30½c; firsts, 29@30c; seconds, 27½@28¼c; lower grades, 22@27c; state, Pennsylvania and nearby henery, whites, fine to fancy, large, 44@47c; do. gathered, whites, 44@45c; henery browns, 41c; do. gathered browns and mixed colors, 37@40c; European, fresh, 28@32c; held fresh, 22@28c. Dressed poultry, quiet; fresh killed western chickens, 13@23c; fowls, 13@19c; turkeys, 18@24c.

Chicago Produce.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—Butter, higher; creameries, 22@35@35½c. Eggs, steady; receipts, 2,566 cases; at mark, cases included, 26@31c; ordinary firsts, 28@29½c; firsts, 31½c. Cheese, steady; daisies, 14¾@15c; twins, 14¼@14½c; Americans, 15¼@15½c; long horns, 14¾@15c. Potatoes, lower; receipts, 57 cars; Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin red, 60@63c; do. white, 60@68c. Poultry, alive, steady; springs, 12@12½c; turkeys, 16c; dressed, 20@22c.

Cotton.

New York, Dec. 15.—Cotton—Futures opened easy; Dec., 12.80c; Jan., 12.65c; March, 12.75c May, 12.70c; July, 12.61c; Oct., 11.85c.

The cotton market was very active and unsettled during today's early trading. Cables were lower than due, and the local market opened easy at a decline of 10 to 17 points under heavy liquidation or bear pressure. This break carried January contracts off to 12.58c or the lowest price reached in the local market since the same delivery sold at 13.85c toward the end of October, and stop orders were evidently executed at the decline. There was an active demand from recent sellers around the initial prices, however, while there also appeared to be some trade buying and prices rallied several points from the lowest before the end of the first hour. Liverpool was a buyer on the opening decline here, presumably unloading of straddles at the widened differences.

The census supply and distribution figures may have contributed to the early weakness. A rally of 6 or 7 points toward the end of the first hour was followed by renewed liquidation which carried prices 18 to 20 points net lower, and the market at midday was still unsettled although prices were 5 or 6 points up from the lowest.

The failure of demand to broaden on rallies of 6 or 8 points from the lowest inspired renewed general selling during the early afternoon, which also have been encouraged by rumors of large private ginning returns. Active months sold about 26 to 31 points net lower.

Cotton futures closed steady. December, 12.05c; January, 12.50c; March, 12.68c; May, 12.64c; July, 12.56c. Spot quiet; m...ling, 13.00c; gulf, 13.25c.

Pittsburg Live Stock.

Pittsburg, Dec. 15.—Cattle—Receipts, 3,200; market steady; heavy steers, $8.60@9.00; fat steers, $7.75@8.50; fair steers, $6.00@6.65; choice heifers, $7.00@7.50; fat cows, $5.50@6.75; fair cows, $3.25@4.10; butcher bulls, $6.25@6.75; milch cows, $50@90. Hogs—Receipts, 16,000; market active; all grades, $7.80@7.85. Sheep and lambs—Receipts, 13,000; market steady; prime wethers, $5.25; choice lambs, $8.15. Calves—Receipts, 500; market steady; top, $12.00.

Chicago Live Stock.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—Hogs—Receipts, 58,000; slow; bulk of sales, $7.65@7.80; light, $7.40@7.72½; mixed, $7.50@7.80; heavy, $7.50@7.85; rough, $7.50@7.60; pigs, $6.25@7.75. Cattle—Receipts, 35,000; weak; beeves, $6.50@9.50; Texas steers, $6.60@7.65; stockers and feeders, $4.90@7.40; cows and heifers, $3.30@8.20; calves, $7.50@11.25. Sheep—Receipts, 50,000; weak; native, $4.40@5.60; rearlings, $5.50@6.75; lambs, native, $6.40@8.00.

Buffalo Live Stock.

East Buffalo, Dec. 15.—Cattle—Receipts, 600; prime steers, $8.60@8.75; shipping, $8.00@8.50; butchers, $7.00@8.25; cows, $3.50@7.00; bulls, $5.00@7.00; heifers, $6.00@7.75; stock heifers, $5.00@5.75; stockers and feeders, $5.50

REBELS LOSE THOUSAND MEN

Constitutionalists Finally Forced to Retreat From Tampico.

Mexico City, Dec. 15.—The rebel loss in the battle between the federal troops and the constitutionalists for the possession of the seaport of Tampico is estimated at 1,000 men, according to a telegram received today at the ministry of the interior from the government of the state of Tamaulipas.

The last shot in the battle was fired at 10 o'clock on Sunday morning, when the rebels retired, according to the official report given out at the war office today. Federal cavalry then pursued the retreating rebels for some distance, afterward returning to Tampico and reporting that the rebels had dispersed, some of them going toward Victoria and others in the direction of Tula and Xicotencatl in the state of Tamaulipas.

The rebels were demoralized and short of ammunition, the official report said. The war department is of opinion that Tampico is safe against further attack and with this assurance an active campaign is to be begun by the federals in the region about Torreon. It was announced today that an effort to retake Durango, which has been long in the possession of the rebels, is to be made at once. The recapture of Durango was the object of the ill-fated expedition, the destruction of which by the rebels precipitated the fall of Torreon several months ago.

Telegrams from Torreon today indicate that the local authorities deposed by the rebels have been restored to office and the public service is being reorganized.

Water Supply Shut Off.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The latest message from Admiral Fletcher summarized in the following statement made public by the navy department:

"A dispatch from Admiral Fletcher on board the Tacoma, dated 3 p. m. Saturday, December 14, advises that the constitutionalists have shut off the water supply of the city.

"At 10 p. m. he advised that the British ship Hermione was in the river carrying the flag of Rear Admiral Cradock.

FOUNDED OVER 30 CHURCHES

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 15.—Rev. Reuben D. Nevius, D. D., who founded more than 30 Episcopal churches in the Pacific northwest, died here yesterday, aged 86 years. He was a botanist and a plant named in his honor the "Nevisia Alabamaensis," is grown extensively in England.

YOUNG GIRL BLOWN UP

Instantly Killed by Bomb Sent by Unknown.

New York, Dec. 12.—Ida Anusewitz, a girl of 18, employed as confidential bookkeeper for the O. K. Bottling Co., at 528 West Thirty-fifth street, was killed today by a bomb sent to her employers.

Thomas McCabe, managing salesman, was cut in the head by flying metal and Michael Ryan, an employe standing outside the office, was injured by shattered glass. The desk on which the bomb was placed as Miss Anusewith opened it was demolished and the office was wrecked.

The bomb was delivered by express. Apparently it contained dynamite, as the force of the explosion was downward.

Who sent the bomb and why were questions that sent a half hundred or more detectives at work on every possible clue. On the wrapper they found in writing the return address—23 State street, New York City. The building at this address is a large office building, occupied chiefly by exporting firms who employ a number of foreigners.

The bureau of combustibles, working on the mystery with the few bits of metal found in the floor and walls, announced that the missile was of similar construction to the bomb sent to Judge Rosalsky about two years ago.

OHIOANS FIGHT FARM BILL

Don't Want Federal Supervision of Agricultural Work.

Columbus, Dec. 11.—Ohio agriculturalists have filed objection at Washington to the passage of the Lever bill for extension work in the field of agriculture, which would put agricultural development work in the country in the hands of the department of agriculture.

Under supervision directed from Washington there would be, it is pointed out, lack of personal contact with the individual sought to be interested, and results in Ohio would be the same, it is feared, as in other states where this plan has been tried.

It is pointed out that if the federal organiation is developed in Ohio it would work at cross-purposes with the state department, causing, it is feared, confusion, and loss of effective results. Ohio is doing its own work, at its own expense, and is doing more than all other states combined. For that reason, leaders oppose any invasion of federal organization that will not be needed and will not aid in larger results, they claim.

"If the bill is passed there will be an army of special agents at work in Ohio, trying to dictate how we shall do our farm improvement work," said President A. P. Sandles of the agricultural commission today.

WILSON OUTLINES A TRUST PROGRAM

Would Have Law and Not Court Define Restraint of Trade.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The scope of President Wilson's program of anti-trust legislation became fairly well defined yesterday at the end of a conference at the White House between the President and six Democratic members of the house judiciary committee, which is to undertake the preparation of the administration bills. The measures to be advanced for action at this session will aim at the following results:

Definition of the various forms of monopoly and restraint of trade which would be "conclusively deemed" unreasonable and in violation of law.

Placing upon the defendant the burden of proof to show that there is no "unreasonable" restraint of trade.

Prohibition of interlocking directorates between large corporations.

Establishment of an interstate trade commission, to exercise regulatory powers, make original investigations and aid the courts in carrying out decrees of dissolution of trusts.

The details of legislation were not worked out at the White House conference, nor was a complete understanding reached as to the number of bills that will be pushed for action at the present session.

The President made it clear, however, that he favors legislation along the general lines of the Lenroot-La Follette bill, which has been before congress since last June, and which was designed to clear up the "twilight zone" of corporation activities.

Will Draft Bill at Once.

The house committee will begin work at once on the preliminary draft of trust bills, but the members will seek further discussions with the President over the form of the measures before completing them for submission to the President.

The President emphasized in the conference yesterday the need of legal bounds for business activity that will place the smaller business man upon an equality with the larger; and that will give to the business world in general a clear legal definition of the frms of combination or trade that are unlawful.

MAY PASS CANAL IN JANUARY

Barring More Slides, First Ship May Get Through Next Month.

Panama, Dec. 15.—Officials of the canal commission believe that if no further slides take place the first ship will go through the canal in January instead of some time next summer, as had been expected. A channel 17 feet deep and 90 feet wide has been completed through the Cucuracha slide, which alone bars the waterway.

Ex-Mayor Who Is Facing Bribery Trial

New York, Dec. 13.—Lively interest centers around the forthcoming trial of James K. McGuire, former mayor of Syracuse, for an alleged violation of the law prohibiting political campaign contributions by corporations.

McGuire is under indictment for soliciting a $5,000 campaign contribution for the Democratic party from the Union Oil Co., of California, a corporation. He has returned from the West Indies to face his accusers. He will be tried early in January. Both fine and imprisonment are provided for as a penalty for the crime.

CURRENCY BILL PASS SATURDAY?

President May Sign New Measure Before Christmas.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The long struggle over currency reform is expected to come to an end in the senate Saturday. Administration leaders who have been exerting every effort to enact into law before Jan. 1 the second great plank of the Democratic platform were confident last night that an agreement could be reached that would permit a final vote in the senate by 6 o'clock Saturday.

Republican senators who have been treating across the party line with the Democrats probably will come to an understanding with the majority leaders today. The Democrats are anxious to close general debate by Thursday and to devote the rest of the time to the consideration of amendments. It is hoped the bill can be sent to President Wilson for signature before Christmas.

Republican critics of the measure probably will demand some changes in it as a condition to giving their consent to a definite time for a vote. It is considered doubtful whether the guaranty of bank deposits to which many Republicans object can be taken out of the measure, but a strong effort will be made to eliminate that provision which authorizes the redemption of the proposed new treasury notes either in gold or "lawful money."

The house has lost sight of the currency bill in the press of new legislation demanding consideration. Important changes in the railroad laws, a comprehensive study of the trust question, and a reopening of the fight over a literacy test for immigrants are dividing attention in that body with the new economy program that was launched Saturday by the "economy conference" of house leaders.

Drastic powers over the physical operation of railroads would be conferred upon the interstate commerce commission under a bill which Representative Stevens, of New Hampshire, has prepared for introduction. Mr. Stevens is a Democratic member of the interstate commerce committee and chairman of a subcommittee on safety matters. His bill is aimed to give the commission full control over railroad property and methods as far as they affect the safety of employes and passengers and follows recent state legislation and recommendations of the special train control board.

"The service on American railroads is not reasonably safe," explained Mr. Stevens last night. "The number of accidents tends to increase. The public has as much right to demand that the government compel railroads to furnish reasonably safe transportation facilities as it has to insist that charges for transportation shall be reasonable."

PLAN TO DISCUSS EUGENICS

Delegates to Race Betterment Convention to Meet in Michigan.

Battle Creek, Mich., Dec. 15.—Delegates to the national conference on race betterment will meet in this city January 8 to 12 inclusive. Eugenics will be among the subjects discussed.

During the convention there will be examinations of several hundred school children for the purpose of obtaining classifications showing the effects of environment and heredity on them.

Standards of mental and physical perfection will be determined and a general campaign to secure the world-wide adoption of these standards as a true fest of mankind will be among the other topics to be considered by the conference.

RABBITS FOR THE POOR FREE

Farmers Kill 1,200 in Two Square Miles.

Pendleton, Ore., Dec. 13.—Meat for the needy in several Oregon cities was furnished free of charge by farmers of this section yesterday. In a drive covering only two square miles, the farmers killed 1,200 rabbits which have destroyed much fall sown wheat.

The rodents were shipped to Portland and other cities for distribution among the poor. It is planned to continue the drives over a territory of 25 square miles and clear the wheat fields of the pests.

CO-OPERATION IN FARMING URGED

Rural Credit Commissioners Ask All Ohioans to Aid in Plan.

Columbus, Dec. 15.—Agricultural co-operation has worked out such astonishing results in a half century abroad that it ought to be studied and broadly applied in this country, and Ohio should lead the way, is the principal conclusion in the report of the Ohio rural credit commission that toured 12 European countries last summer.

The report will be completed in a few weeks and submitted to Gov. Cox for transmission to the next assembly.

The gospel of co-operation, the interdependence of of individuals, is preached in an orthodox fashion and repeated for sake of emphasis. With much care it is pointed out that in this great scheme of co-operation there is room for the smallest member of the community. The co-operative plan contemplates a real union of effort.

Chance for All.

The small member of society, the man owning no land, who is possessed of a few dollars, renders an important service to the whole plan by putting his money into the securities the report will declare should be issued for the financing of the plan. He buys a bond for $25, $50 or any sum he wishes. Because there are many these contributions become mighty in turning the wheels of business and aiding the state, while the general productiveness of the country and the enthusiastic tiller of the land, supply to the small or the large investor a security quickly marketed and backed by the land of the community.

Having elaborated on the commercial value of the co-operative spirit to be thus highly developed, the commission, composed of Senator John Cunningham, of Knox county, and Representative W. M. Brown, of Ashland county, has joined in a list of suggestions for the state.

The first suggestion is that a bureau of marketing be established by the agricultural commission for the purpose of helping the producer find the best, quickest and most convenient market for his product. It is claimed that would offer an immediate advantage to every producer, and to every consumer, by getting these two important market factors in close touch at all times.

Other recommendations are:

County demonstration farm and county agent of the agricultural commission.

Short course in scientific agriculture in every county each year, meeting the particular need of each county.

Co-operation of the agricultural commission and state university agricultural department in establishing a course in marketing and co-operative organization.

Study of advisability of exempting from taxation the amount of the mortgaged farms.

Guard Against Monopoly.

Prevention of monopoly and prosecution of violations, with supplemental legislation to prevent discrimination in price based on whether there is competition.

Against taking unfair advantage of one's reputation and discrimination in price where dealings are exclusively with one person, firm or corporation.

Against refusal to sell to one person because that person may deal elsewhere.

Against division of territory to prevent competition, and against unfair manipulation of prices to destroy competition.

Promotion of efficiency and economy in production and distribution and furnishing of information on co-operative buying, selling and production.

Proper accounting and business methods, including legal procedure in forming co-operative organizations.

Conducting a market news bulletin.

Providing experts in accounting, legal procedure and business organization to assist farmers in establishing co-operative societies, and drafting of rules and by-laws for these organizations.

City Market Plan.

Establishment of city markets where farm produce may be displayed conveniently for buyers and which are accessible to the people.

Arranging for farmers to obtain farm-raised goods not produced in Ohio directly from farmers' organizations in other states.

Investigation of business practices and customs of commission merchants to determine if they shall be bonded and to what extent.

These recommendations are supported by pages of deductions as the result of conditions the committee found in the 12 European countries visited during the summer.

"MAN CAN EARN A MILLION"

So Says Secretary Bryan, Addressing Clergymen in New York.

New York, Dec. 11.—Secretary of State William J. Bryan, speaking before the clerical conference of the New York Federation of Churches on "Fundamentals," declared it to be his belief that it is possible for a man really to earn $530,000 a year for a lifetime of 33 1-3 working years, or $1,000,000 a lifetime.

Secretary Bryan made this declaration in discussing man's relation to the society about him, which, he said, was one of the three things fundamental in human life. Other fundamentals he mentioned were one's relation to the government under which he lives and to his God. The meeting was attended by ministers only, representing 50 denominations.

Comparing the wealth of the richest American, which he estimated at $500,000,000, Secretary Bryan, declared his belief that Thomas Jefferson and Abe Lincoln rendered services to the world that were worth immeasurably more than that.

At the present rate if increase it is predicted that 200,000 motorcycles will be in use in the United Kingdom by the end of the year.

MRS. YOUNG DEFEATED

Re-Election of Woman Superintendent Fails.

Chicago, Dec. 11.—Lack of undivided support from the board of education was given by Mrs. Ella Flagg Young as the reason why she withdrew her name as a candidate for re-election to the superintendency of the public schools at last night's session of the board of education. After a vote which failed to elect her, Mrs. Young withdrew and John D. Shoop, assistant superintendent, was selected on the second ballot to succeed her. She explained her action in the following words:

"I think every one here believes the duties of the superintendent of schools, if properly administered, need all the strength and support of the board. That superintendent who needs more than one ballot to elect her would not have the support required in the superintendent's work.

"Therefore, I withdraw my name as a candidate. I took the action of the board last July in good faith. I misunderstood that action. When one finds a mistake has been made, the thing to do is to rectify it. Nothing now could make me permit my name to be used for the superintendency."

Last July when Mrs. Young failed to receive the unanimous support of the board of education, she presented her resignation. A few days later she withdrew it.

TRAIN BEARING DEAD DERAILED

Wreckers Cause Death of Fireman When Engine Leaves Track.

Cleveland, Dec. 13.—That the partial derailment of train No. 16, on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad near Wickliffe, east of this city, shortly before midnight, was the result of a deliberate attempt at train wrecking, was the belief expressed by Lake Shore officials early today. The fireman was killed.

Officials assert spikes had been removed from the rails and the road has offered a reward of $1,000 for the arrest of the person tampering with the roadbed.

Attached to train No. 16 was the private car of the newly elected president of the New York Central system, Alfred H. Smith.

President-elect Smith, after a visit to his aged mother in this city, to receive her congratulations on his promotion and a hurried western trip, was returning eastward. The private car was not derailed.

President-elect Smith, after a conference with the engineer of the train, Joseph Lamb, issued this statement:

"The engineer told me that while the train was proceeding about a mile from Wickliffe, the engine suddenly leaped into the air, indicating very plainly that an obstruction that could not readily be seen and yet would cause derailment, had been on the track. The accident is very mystifying, in view of this and the added fact that it was a perfectly straight stretch where the wreck occurred."

After the wreck President-elect Smith himself helped to operate a handcar four miles up the road to a telegraph office to summon aid.

Rumors shortly after the accident that the attempted wrecking of the train was with an intention of killing the president-elect were laughed at by Mr. Smith.

SENDS A REAL NOAH'S ARK

Tom Lawson Gives Live Animals to Grandchildren.

Boston, Dec. 15.—Thomas W. Lawson is sending as a Christmas present a freight car containing a mammoth Noah's ark, filled with live animals, to his grandchildren, Henry McCall, Jr., and Thomas Lawson McCall, sons of Mrs. Henry McCall, at their ranch, Crooked River, Or.

On its trip the ark is guarded by two men.

The ark contains 150 Plymouth Rock and Rhode Island Red hens, with two roosters; two Siamese cats, two English bull pups, five Jersey and Holstein cows, two sons of the mare Champion, Flying Fox's daughter, a prize winner, and two pigs.

This Is N. Y. Politician Charged With Bribery

Arthur A. McLean, treasurer of the New York Democratic state committee, has been indicted in the criminal branch of the supreme court on charges of violating the law which makes it a misdemeanor to accept a campaign contribution from a corporation. Another indictment was returned against Everett Fowler, of Kingston, who has been indicted already on a charge of extortion. The new indictment charges him with soliciting a contribution from a corporation. The penalty is a fine of $1,000 and imprisonment for a year or both.

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FREE FOR 6 MONTHS—MY SPECIAL offer to introduce my magazine "INVESTMENT FOR PROFIT." It is worth $10 a copy to anyone who has been getting poorer while the rich, richer. It demonstrates the REAL earning power of money, and shows how anyone, no matter how poor, CAN acquire riches. INVESTING FOR PROFIT is the only progressive financial journal published. It shows how $100 grows to $2,200. Write NOW and I'll send it six months free. H. L. Barber, 407. 28 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago.

MALE HELP WANTED.

Railway mail clerk examinations everywhere soon; $75 to $150 monthly; write for schedule. Franklin Institute, Dept. B-27, Rochester, N. Y.

Man wanted to raise easy shaves at home. Instructions, dime. Barspes, Box 333, Seattle, Wn.

Men for electric railway motormen and conductors; fine opportunity; about $80 monthly; experience unnecessary; no strikes; state age. Address Box S-170, care Weekly Blade, Toledo, O.

Locomotive Firemen and Brakemen, $80, $140; experience unnecessary. Pay tuition when employed. 797 Railway Bureau, E. St. Louis, Ill.

FEMALE HELP WANTED.

Ladies make shields at home. $10 per 100. Work sent prepaid to reliable women. Particulars for stamped addressed envelope. Eureka Co., Dept. 23, Kalamazoo, Mich.

FARMS WANTED

Farms Wanted—We have direct buyers. Don't pay commissions. Write describing property, nothing lowest price. We help buyers locate desirable property Free. American Investment Association, 96 Palace Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn.

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HELP WANTED.

Men and Women over 18, get government jobs; $65 to $150 month. Parcel post and income tax mean hundreds of postoffice, railway mail and internal revenue appointments. Write immediately for free list of positions now available. Franklin Institute, Dept. B-31, Rochester, New York.

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Government Farms Free—Our official 112 page book "Vacant Government Lands" describes every acre in every county in U. S. How secured free. 1913 diagrams and tables. All about Irrigated Farms. Price 25 cents postpaid. Webb Publishing Co., Dept. 105, St. Paul, Minn.

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Texas School Lands. $1.50 to $5.00 per acre; 1-40th down, balance 40 years. Texas map free. Journal Publishing Co., Houston, Texas.

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"SON, I AM PROUD OF YOU"

Mother of New Head of N. Y. Central Lines Greets Him.

Cleveland, Dec. 11.—"Son, I am proud of you; I knew you had it in you."

This was the benediction breathed upon Alfred H. Smith of New York, newly elected president of the New York Central Lines, by his 85-year-old mother, Mrs. Charlotte Smith, when the son paid her a surprise visit at her home here today.

The greeting between Smith and his mother, who is an invalid, was most affectionate. She placed her arms around his neck as she lay in her bed and kissed him again and again.

It was the first meeting between the two since the elevation of Smith to head the great railway corporation in which he has served many years. Smith stopped here for a short time today on his way west from New York on business.

INDIANS DYING OF STARVATION

Report of Expedition to Study Red Men Is in President's Hands.

Philadelphia, Dec. 13.—Bringing a report on the condition on the Indian, which is described as deplorable, the Rodman Wanamaker expedition to the North American Indian returned to this city yesterday after a visit to 189 tribes of Indians in the United States.

The expedition, which was headed by Dr. Joseph K. Dixon, spent six months in its investigation. Dr. Dixon has prepared a lengthy report in which he makes a strong appeal for aid for the red men, who he declared are "fast dying from starvation, pestilence and neglect by the white man." A summary of the report has been placed in the hands of President Wilson and other government officials.

Changes Destiny of Race.

Upon his arrivel here yesterday Dr. Dixon made an address in which he gave a brief account of the expedition and its results.

"I feel that I have changed the destiny of the Indian race," he said. "The Indian has hitherto been driven back and robbed by the white man. Even the opportunity to earn a livelihood has been taken away from him. The Indian is afraid and suspicious of the white man because practically he has had everything taken from him by his pale-faced brother.

"I think our expedition has paved the way to clear the clouds of suspicion and break down the walls of fear and in the future I believe the red man will welcome the just advance of the white man.

Stewed Pine Bark.

"The condition among the majority of the Indians is deplorable and the government at Washington is kept in ignorance of it. A tribe called the Jicarilla Apaches is starving to death on the top of the Continental Divide in New Mexico, where they have been driven by the white man after he had taken their lands from them. For several months before I visited them they had nothing to eat but stewed pine bark. There are 700 in the tribe and at the rate they are dying at present they will become extinct in 14 years."

$400,000 FIRE WORK OF FURIOUS MILITANTS

London, Dec. 15.—The suffragette arson squad today set fire to a lumber yard at Devonport and destroyed property worth over $400,000.

The lumber yards and considerable adjoining property were fire swept before the blaze was under control.

Quantities of suffragette literature and placards bearing the words, "Revenge for the arrest of Mrs. Pankhurst," were found scattered about.

The scene of the fire is the spot where "General" Flora Drummond and other militants awaited Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst on her arrival in England from the United States on December 4 when the suffragette leader was arrested.

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst will be released from Holloway jail this evening.

Miss Pankhurst, since her arrest on December 10, has adopted the most drastic method of adding a "no sleep strike" to her "hunger and thirst strike" in order to force the prison authorities to release her.

Stone workers in Germany have a union membership of 76,783.

PARCEL POST
Give it by the box for Christmas!
Nearly every dealer can now sell you a twenty package box of clean, pure, healthful
WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT
for 85 cents
You can send this sure-to-be-welcome delicacy to all you want to "remember." It's a big gift in long enjoyment—it's little in cost to you. Get it for yourself!
CAUTION!
The great popularity of the clean, pure, healthful
WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT
is causing unscrupulous persons to wrap rank imitations that are not even real chewing gum so they resemble genuine WRIGLEY'S. The better class of stores will not try to fool you with these imitations. They will be offered to you principally by street fakirs, peddlers and the candy departments of some 5 and 10 cent stores. These rank imitations cost dealers one cent a package or even less and are sold to careless people for almost any price. If you want Wrigley's look before you buy. Get what you pay for.
Be SURE it's Wrigley's
THE FLAVOR LASTS
WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT PEPSIN GUM
CHICAGO
THE FLAVOR LASTS
W. Wrigley Jr. Co.
We are inserting the above caution solely to protect our customers, who are continually writing us that they have been deceived by imitations which they purchased thinking they were WRIGLEY'S.
Chew it after every meal
Give regular help to teeth, breath, appetite and digestion

Make $30 a Week
New gas-generating coal-oil lamp. Burns common kerosene. Absolutely safe.
300 Candle Power
Lights and make a sale. Literally, millions can be sold. Every home, city or country needs it. Enormous profits on every sale. $30 a week easy. Low retail price. Attractive terms to agents. Write quick for territory and 15-day free trial offer if you mean business.
THOMAS LAMP COMPANY
1078 Lane Street DAYTON, OHIO